AMISH COUNTRY NEWS

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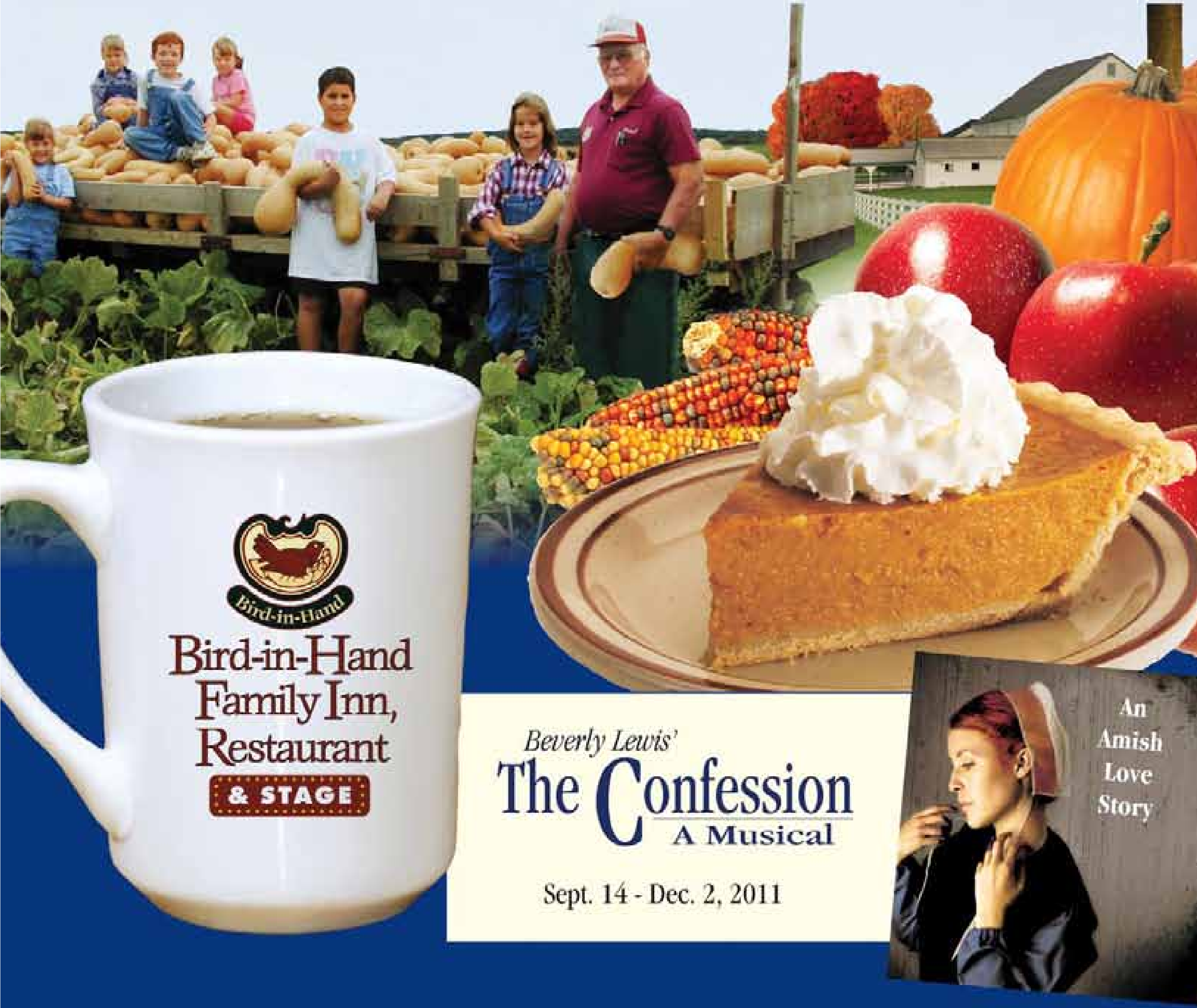
Celebrating 22 Years! · September 2011 · FREE

FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS ISSUE



Meet the Amish Country Business Owners

The Fantasy of the Renaissance Faire Continues

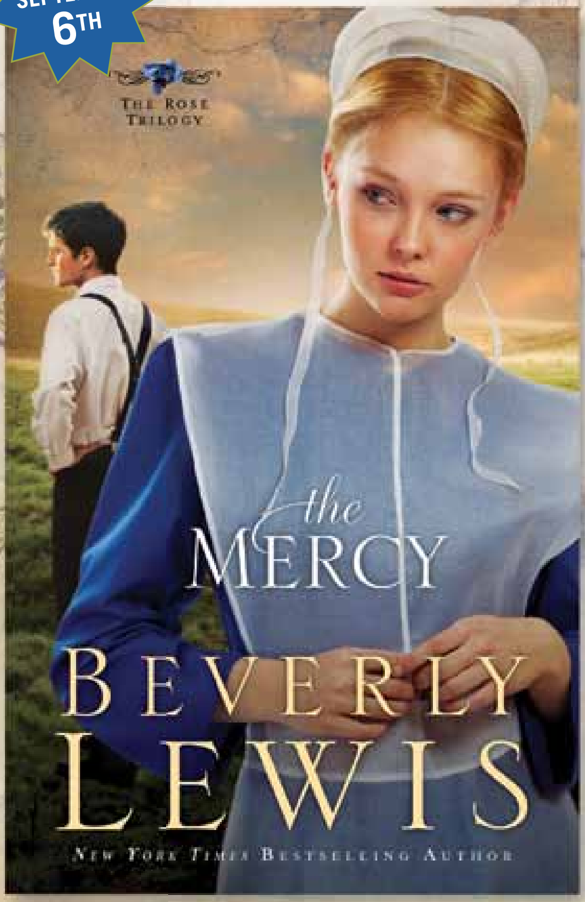
The Amish... To Tax, Or Not to Tax

EXPERIENCE THE

Heart and Soul

of an Amish Family

ON SALE SEPTEMBER 6TH



The Mercy
by Beverly Lewis
The Rose Trilogy # 3

Don't miss the stunning conclusion to this *New York Times* bestselling series from Beverly Lewis!

With the young men they love bound to the English world, will two Amish sisters be forced to choose between their beloved People and true love?

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The Rose Trilogy # 1

The Judgment by Beverly Lewis
The Rose Trilogy # 2

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DUTCH HAVEN LANCASTER COUNTY LANDMARK

While driving along Route 30 in Lancaster County, you may see a few unfamiliar, if not unique, sites. You may catch a glimpse of some folks dressed a little unusually. You'll probably see a few horse-drawn carriages instead of cars. And, you'll undoubtedly notice the Dutch Haven windmill. This landmark building has been drawing thousands of visitors each week to Lancaster County for the past 50 years. Opening first as a restaurant in 1946, the Dutch Haven operated with great success with a world famous Shoo Fly pie recipe.

Today, the Dutch Haven staple is still "America's Best Shoo Fly Pie." All you have to do is pass through the door and you will be offered a sample taste of this famous pie—warmed and topped with whipped cream, just like it was always served in the restaurant, years ago.

Some 40,000 pies will be sold at the Dutch Haven this year alone. While most of these shoo fly pies are purchased over the counter, some are shipped UPS. Many pies are sold to faithful customers who have been buying them from Dutch Haven for over half a century!

Come Taste America's Best Shoo Fly Pie **FREE!**

As always at Dutch Haven, the famous pie that was featured in Time magazine is just part of the story. The windmill building now houses one of, if not the best, selections of primitive Amish pine furniture in the area. Corner cupboards, pie safes, chests, and shelves are all available. Hundreds of pieces of Amish woodcrafts fill what once were the dining rooms of this wonderful old building. In addition, thousands of other items from pot holders to collectibles, T-shirts, small wood crafts, Amish romance novels, and much more make Dutch Haven a true shopping experience.

Dutch Haven's shopping hours are Sun.-Thurs. 9am-7pm, Fri. & Sat. 9am-9pm. For more information about this Lancaster County landmark, call (717) 687-0111.

Visiting Dutch Haven - "the place that made Shoo Fly Pie famous" - will help to make your trip to Pennsylvania Dutch Country even more memorable.

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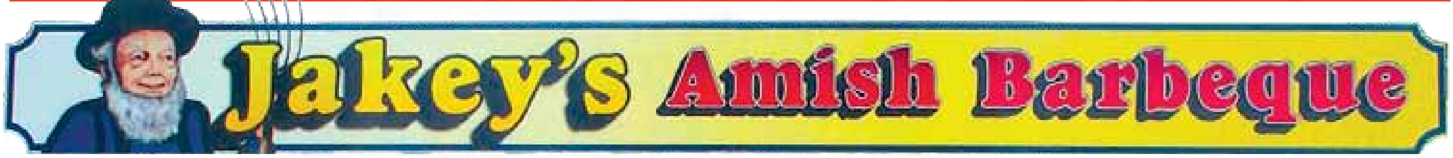

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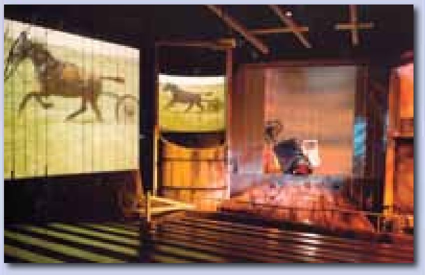
the Amish Experience

Immerse Yourself in the Amish Story

WITNESS the spectacular "Jacob's Choice" told with Disney-like Special Effects in the Amish Experience Theater.



EXPLORE the Amish Country Homestead, the region's only officially designated Heritage Site Amish home.

SIT in a desk at the new Fisher Amish schoolroom furnished authentically with desks and more from an actual Amish classroom.

AUTHENTIC LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

Designated a Heritage Site by the Lancaster County Planning Commission

TOUR the magnificent and rarely seen Amish Farmlands with a certified tour guide in air-conditioned comfort onboard one of our 14 passenger shuttles.

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- Our exclusive Visit-in-Person tour, the area's only officially designated Heritage Tour, Mon.-Fri. thru Oct.

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Bird-in-Hand Family Inn, Restaurant & Stage:
A Tradition of Farm Fresh Food, Warm Welcomes and Smucker Surprises.

Special to Amish Country News

In 1938, National Geographic Magazine introduced Grandma Smucker and her sons to the world.

A Family History of Good, Farm Fresh Food...

Fresh-from-the-farm goodness is the legacy of the Smucker Family, owners of the Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Bakery. The original Smucker homestead—in the family for 100 years—still sits across from the 300-seat Bird-in-Hand Family Inn & Restaurant. On this farm and in its Pennsylvania Dutch kitchen the great-grandparents of today's owners, John and Jim Smucker, began a tradition of hospitality that continues today. Grandma Smucker perfected her delicious Pennsylvania Dutch recipes, while Grandfather Smucker tended their farm and sold Lancaster County meats and cheeses at local farmers markets.

In the late '60s and early '70s Grandma Smucker, then a widow, her son Paul and other family members opened the Bird-in-Hand Family Inn & Restaurant in the meadow along the AAA cultural scenic byway, the Old Philadelphia Pike (Route 340) which ran through their property, connecting Philadelphia with the historic town of Lancaster. In 1984 the family opened the Bird-in-Hand Bakery along the same road.

Today the third generation of Smuckers treats over half a million guests each year to an ever-changing selection of better tasting, healthier, locally grown food. Keeping recipes just as Grandma Smucker and their mother perfected, the Smucker Family helps sustain neighboring Amish and Mennonite family farmers, preserve open farmland, and invest in their community's future.

...and Warm Hospitality...

From the very start, Grandma Smucker's welcoming ways have been second nature to how guests are treated at their properties. Whether it's wait-staff serving hungry guests at the Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Smorgasbord, a housekeeper tidying up a guest's room at the 125-room Bird-in-Hand Family Inn, a lifeguard helping a young swimmer at the Family Inn's indoor or outdoor pools, or a tour guide introducing lodging guests to her Amish neighbors' ways of life, Bird-in-Hand staff members are committed to a value instilled in the Smucker family a long, long time ago.

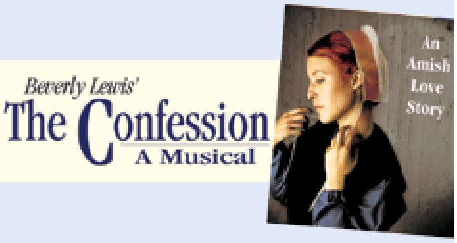
...with Unforgettable Smucker Surprises.

In today's hurried world it's so easy to race past the moments that matter. The Smucker family values those special times more than ever, since the passing this Spring of their father, grandfather and founder, Paul Smucker. Inspired by moments they spent "porching" with Paul, a fire pit was built at the Bird-in-Hand Family Inn. Here members of the Smucker family welcome guests for S'Mores with the Smuckers—a time of fellowship with their own family and friends at night's end.

The Smucker family has also recently introduced their very special Banquets in a Cornfield. After a hayride to John and Myrna Smucker's farm, guests find barbecue chicken and freshly picked corn-on-the-cob waiting for them at tables set in one of their lush cornfields. No surprise, these evenings sold out fast!

Other Smucker Surprises include Smucker Breakfasts and after-dinner, Smucker Ice Cream Parties served by Smucker family members. Smucker Socials continue to draw big crowds to hear Jim or John Smucker, both Mennonites, and an Amish friend share insight into their Anabaptist cultures. If you're lucky, one of these Smucker Specials are happening during your stay.

New to Bird-in-Hand



September 14—December 2, 2011

the Smucker family is bringing Beverly Lewis' inspiring Amish love story to their new Bird-in-Hand Stage at the Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant. A musical adaptation of her popular "Heritage of Lancaster County" trilogy, the musical shares the uplifting story of characters from *The Shunning*, *The Confession* and *The Reckoning* through soaring melodies and inspiring lyrics. Tickets are on sale now, and lunch, dinner and lodging packages are also available.

Details are available at (800) 790-4069 or www.TheConfessionMusical.com

This year Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant hosted Banquets in a Cornfield, and all were quick sellouts. Even more of these unique Smucker experiences are planned in 2012.

Upcoming August Events

NOTE: All phone area codes are 717 unless otherwise noted. Please call or check websites to confirm dates and times.

IRVING BERLIN'S I LOVE A PIANO

The nostalgic show with more than 60 Irving Berlin songs.

"Oh, How I Hate To Get Up In The Morning"
"God Bless America"
"Alexander's Ragtime Band"
"Blue Skies"
"Steppin' Out With My Baby"
"Puttin on the Ritz"
"The Best Things Happen While You Dance"
"There's No Business Like Show Business"
"Anything You Can Do"
and of course the title song
"I Love A Piano."

August 25- October 1

Dutch Apple DINNER THEATRE

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Lancaster Call 898-1900 for tickets or order online at DutchApple.com

Thru November (see website for schedule)
"Wine & Cheese Train"
Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522
StrasburgRailRoad.com

Thru November (call for schedule)
Ghost Tours of Lancaster
Strasburg & Downtown Lancaster
Strasburg/Lancaster, 687-6687 • 610-404-4678
GhostTour.com

Thru November 5 (see website for schedule)
Amazing Corn Maize Maze
Cherry Crest Adventure Farm
Strasburg, PA 687-6843
CherryCrestFarm.com

Thru October 30 (see website for schedule)
Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire
Mount Hope Estate & Winery
Manheim, PA 665-7021
PaRenFaire.com

Thru October 30
- **Amish Visit-In-Person Tours** (Mon.-Fri.)
- **Witness Movie Covered Bridge Tour** (Wed. & Sat.)

Amish Experience / Amish Country Tours
Bird-in-Hand, 768-8400
AmishExperience.com

Thru October 22
"Joseph"
Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre
Strasburg, PA 800-377-1277
Sight-Sound.com

Thru October 1
"I Love a Piano"
Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre
Lancaster, 898-1900
DutchApple.com

September 2 - September 30
Friday Nights at the Improv
Mount Hope Estate & Winery
Manheim, PA 665-7021
PaRenFaire.com

September 2
First Friday Activities
Throughout Downtown Area
Lancaster, PA 509-ARTS
LancasterARTS.com/firstfridays

September 2
Apple Harvest Festival
Intercourse Canning Company
Intercourse, PA 768-0156
intercoursecanning.com

September 2 - 5
Long's Park Art & Craft Festival
Long's Park • Lancaster, PA 295-7054
LongsPark.org

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The court jesters are among hundreds of colorfully costumed characters at the PA Renaissance Faire.

September 3 & 17
Traditional Dinner & Murder Mystery
Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522
StrasburgRailRoad.com

September 3 & 4
Theme - Tobacco & Vintage Tavern
Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115
ShuppsGrove.com

September 3 & 5
Hospice Labor Day Auction
Lampeter Fair Grounds
Lampeter, PA
295-3900
HospiceofLancaster.org

September 10 & 11
Theme - Sports Collectibles & Cast Iron
Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115
ShuppsGrove.com

September 9-11
Run, Ride, & Soar
Bird-in-Hand • Bird-in-Hand, PA 768-1500
RunRideSoar.com

September 11
PA Music Expo - Keystone Record Collectors
Continental Inn Lancaster, PA 898-1246
RecordCollectors.org

September 14-December 2
The Confession: A Musical
Bird In Hand Family Inn
Bird In Hand, PA 800-790-4069
BirdInHand.com

September 17 & 18
Theme - Farming, Hunting & Fishing
Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115
ShuppsGrove.com

September 17-25
Great Train Robbery
Strasburg Rail Road • Strasburg, PA 687-7522
StrasburgRailRoad.com

September 17
7th Annual Whoopie Pie Festival
Hershey Farm • Strasburg, PA 800-827-8635
HersheyFarm.com

September 17 - 25
"A Day Out with Thomas™"
Strasburg Rail Road • Strasburg, PA 687-7522
StrasburgRailRoad.com

September 23, 24 & 25
Homecoming Extravaganza
Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115
ShuppsGrove.com

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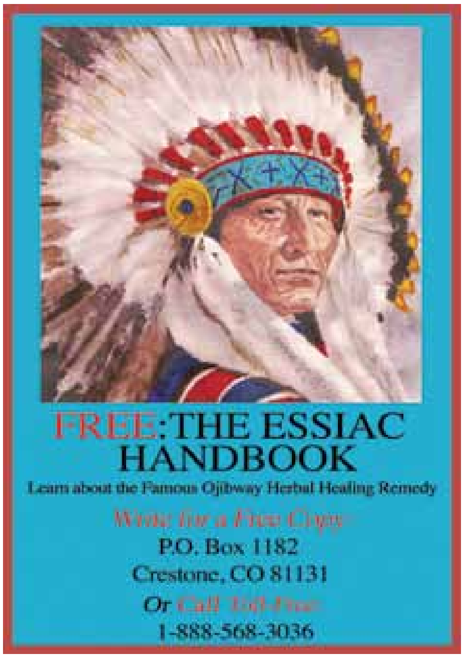
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Amish Country
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Shop online for American Made gifts and crafts from Lancaster County, PA.

A Marvelous Collision of Quilts and Pillows: Country Lane Quilts

by Clinton Martin

When husband and wife team Chris and Katie Stoltzfus aren't out in their spacious hen-house collecting eggs to sell to their wholesale customers, they are sure to be found in the inviting red brick farmhouse at the top of the country lane greeting quilt-seeking customers from near and far. Indeed, when you turn off Groffdale Road on your way to Country Lane Quilts, you instantly come to see that this is indeed the perfect name for this farm and haven for those in search of fine hand-made quilts.

The basement of the Stoltzfus home, a nice walk-in sun-filled room, is filled with quilts, quillows (a delightful combination of pillow and quilt) and plenty of locally crafted items. Everything you see is made within minutes of the farm by Amish & Mennonite quilters. You can certainly shop with confidence that Country Lane is as close to the source as you can get!

On my last visit, Katie told me how October is usually her busiest month of the year, so while reading this, think quickly and realize that you are at a distinct advantage – having the first crack at the very best selection before the rush of customers soon to come!

Find your way to Country Lane Quilts by traveling Route 772 (Newport Road) West from the village of Intercourse. Turn right onto Groffdale Road, and travel about 3 miles. Look for the sign out at the end of the lane. It will be on your right. The farm is open every day except Sunday.

Sam's Steins: The Perfect Place to Start, or Add To Your Man Cave!

by Clinton Martin

Prepare yourself to swoon over an abundance of breweriana gathered over 40 years that can only be described as majestic. All it takes is one step into Sam's Steins & Collectibles to know that this is a Man Cave haven. Sam May and his daughter Samantha own and operate this tribute to the legacy that beer has given us – signs, taps, glassware, t-shirts, and of course steins. Some of the items are elegant and old-world. Others just make you smirk.

Sam is always a great resource for finding rare items and anticipating new merchandise that might be released. In fact, he is often the first to know. So, if you are looking for something in particular, stop in and pick his brain. I have been fortunate to expand my own collection of pint glasses with many a visit to Sam's, and I can tell you that his prices are consistently better than what you'd find elsewhere.

Everything's cool at Sam's Steins

Plenty of neon signs, both contemporary and historic brands

Taps, Tubs, and Steins... and More!

Whether or not a collector, a visit to Sam's is an experience unto itself. Easy to find on Route 30 at 2207 Lincoln Highway East, you can call at (717) 394-6404, but if you truly can't get there in person (and that would be a mistake), you can visit online at www.samssteins.com.

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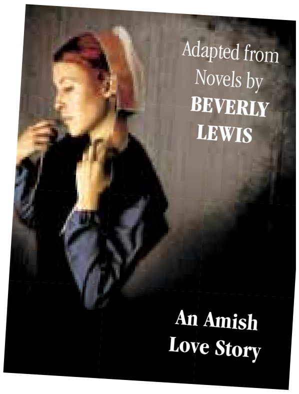
Beverly Lewis'
The Confession
A Musical

Sept. 14 - Dec. 2, 2011

This musical adaptation of a trilogy of Beverly Lewis' bestselling Amish novels pulls its uplifting story line, soaring melodies and inspiring lyrics from characters she first introduced in *The Confession*, *The Shunning* and *The Reckoning*.


Adapted from Novels by BEVERLY LEWIS
An Amish Love Story

Adult tickets $29 to $33
Lunch and dinner packages available
(800) 790-4069
www.TheConfessionMusical.com

You'll Love It At Yoder's!

by Clinton Martin

Yoder's is a destination for many of your Amish Country delights, but what makes this little corner of the County so unique is that it is truly a family-owned business from the ground up.

It all starts with the soil, with the Yoder family tending their own herd of golden Guernsey cows on the family dairy farm. The rich milk produced on the farm makes its way to the market bottling line, filling thousands of old-fashioned, nostalgic glass bottles, for sale to Yoder's loyalists.

The exceptional milk from the Yoder farm is also used in their equally exceptional creamy, ice cream. Buy it in gallon pails in the Market, or simply try some, hand-dipped just for you! Yoder's Restaurant & Buffet in New Holland is located right next to the farm market and grocery store, where visitors and locals alike will be seen enjoying the all-you-care-to-eat bounty temptingly laid out. Call 717-354-4748 for more information.

THE MOM & POP TRADITION

Don Ranck enjoys showing the many facets of farming to his guests, and even puts them to work, at Verdant View Bed & Breakfast.

By Brad Igou

Nowadays, there seem to be many definitions of "family." We throw this word around a lot, including its use for a group of people with a common interest, as in a family of TV viewers or fans of a particular artist. We use it to describe a common grouping, such as the "family of Disney cartoon characters," or the "insect family." We could even note the "human family," to include virtually everyone, living or dead.

It is therefore not really surprising that the basic definitions can be quite broad, although the Merriam-Webster Dictionary main definition reads as "a group of individuals living under one roof and usually of one head."

For our purposes, we are using the very traditional idea of family, what was called the "nuclear family" when I was growing up. For younger readers, that does NOT mean a family that survived a nuclear disaster, or a family transformed to having superpowers due to radiation exposure, although Hollywood has certainly given us those.

It was actually several years ago that a colleague who came to Amish Country to live and work shared the observation that there were a lot of family-owned businesses here. I had never really thought about it that much. It was one of those "obvious" things that are not so obvious to people who grew up here. Perhaps this is largely due to the close knit family and traditional values for which we are known, especially throughout our Amish and Mennonite community. But this notion is certainly not restricted to them.

And so began our interest in family-owned businesses, and collecting the stories behind many in what has become one of our most popular *Amish Country News* issues. Scattered through our pages are many stories, but I wanted to highlight a sampling of the variety of the businesses that you might visit.

Attractions

There are several attractions and activities for you to enjoy that are family-owned, both "Old Order" and not. Buggy rides certainly come to mind. **Aaron & Jessica's** actually takes its name from one of the owner's daughters who, as a child, wanted to try her hand at offering buggy rides. As for Aaron, he's one of the horses, but still part of the "family," I suppose.

A classic example of a family business is the **Choo Choo Barn**. Tom Groff got hooked on model railroading after his father kept expanding the layout in the family home to the point that it required a separate building. Opening in 1961 with just six trains, 50 years later, it is now a local landmark covering over 17,000 square feet with 22 trains and 150 hand-built animations. With Tom's daughter now part of the team, Tom still keeps busy adding to and tweaking his layouts as the Choo Choo Barn keeps chugging along.

Finally, the dramatic world of family traditions in the theater are all alive with the Prathers at **Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre**, the DiSavinos at **Rainbow Dinner Theatre**, and the Eshelmans at **Sight & Sound Theatres®**.

Crafts, Quilts, and Furniture

There are really so many shops and businesses related to these hand-crafted items, that it would be difficult to single any one of them out. Over the years, as farmland has become scarce, and expensive, many of the Amish looked for ways to supplement their income. The little shops that sprang up on the farm grew into important family businesses, with ever larger stores to accommodate the demand for their wares. The reputation for fine furniture, quilts, and more grew and with Amish Country a major visitor destination, new customers arrived each season. Bigger workshops and retail spaces continue to be found. Some shops are small assembly plants where many men are employed, and some craft businesses have become strictly wholesale.

You commonly see trucks transporting furniture, storage sheds and gazebos far beyond our farmlands. Many Amish travel to markets in Philadelphia and other areas to display and sell their goods. Indeed, the proliferation of all these cottage industries has spawned several books on Amish entrepreneurs and the secrets behind their success. A sad fact to many, but fewer than half of our Amish now earn their living farming.

Throughout our pages, you'll see the names attached to the business, such as **Riehl's Quilts & Crafts**, or **Esh Handmade Quilts**. Larger furniture stores have opened, where multiple families supply the furniture without the need for each to have a storefront, thus offering shoppers more variety. Two examples are **Country Home Furniture** and **Gish's Furniture**.

So when you spot Amish boys selling lemonade by the road, you may well be witnessing a budding Amish business – **Amos's Sweet Lemonade**!

Restaurants

Amish Country is known for our food, so it is not surprising that many restaurants are family-owned. In the late 1950's, the Lapp brothers opened the first family-style restaurants, **Plain & Fancy** and **Good 'N Plenty**. The Smucker brothers at **Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant** now also own several hotels and even gave birth to the wonderful **"Banquet in the Cornfield"** this year on the family farm. Many of the small

This Amish boy is opening up shop as part of the next generation of Amish businessmen. Photo Credit: Charles Rehm operations have developed loyal followings with some growing into modest operations, like **Yoder's Market & Buffet** in New Holland, large businesses like the popular **Shady Maple** complex, and even "mini-empires" like **Willow Valley**.

We certainly have come a long way from the early days when meals were served in the farmhouse. Look for the October issue of ***Amish Country News***, our Annual Dining Guide, overflowing with great places to eat.

Lodging

While it may not be apparent at first glance as you drive past large chain hotels, we actually have an amazing number of family owned hotels and campgrounds with many in operation since the earliest days of tourism in the 1950's.

More recently, the rise in popularity of Bed and Breakfasts has meant there are scores of establishments where you will not only get to meet and talk with the owners, but actually stay overnight in their home. Some are even on farms, such as at **Verdant View**, where you can actually help with the farm chores for a unique and fun experience that goes way beyond a bed in a room.

Shops

While I have mentioned some of the smaller craft shops, let us not forget the wide variety of other shops in the area that are also family-owned. An example that comes to mind is the amazing **Aimee & Daria's Doll Outlet**, a true mother-daughter act if ever there was one. Other interesting family owned shops worthy of a vacation stop include **Country Knives, Killer Hats, Smucker Gourds, Country Road Flowers, the Old Candle Barn**, and **Jake's Country Trading Post**.

Baked Goods and Jams

Yes, we are again back to food. For some families, it wasn't about opening a restaurant, but rather a way to get their specialty to the consumer. For many it was as simple as setting up a table or stand along the road, selling baked goods, jams and jellies, and even root beer. But some grew into larger stores, such as the **Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop** on Gibbons Road, where Butch and Linda Miller are celebrating 38 years of baking goodies for both locals and visitors.

Steve and Susan Adams divide the duties at the **Intercourse Canning Company**, one of several area businesses canning everything from strawberry jam and chow chow to salsa and meat marinades for the discriminating consumer. I recommend stopping in to observe the canning process, try some samples, and take in the enticing aromas.

Quilt shops often display their product right on the front porch, hoping to attract the eye of passers-by.

Family Values

For the Amish business person, family is attached to a culture far from corporate, one destined to toil and hand the soil to the next generation. More and more today, however, it is the family business that will be passed on to the next generation. In both cases, the Amish family businessman is creating something of lasting value, while never breaching the commitment to each other, the community and the faith. These are values passed down from the Old World to the New, and certainly many of us can learn from them.

As you might guess by now, one of my favorite things to do is stop at an Amish roadside stand to pick up some food on my way home. Strawberries and corn are favorites at the right time of the year, but shoofly pie, sticky buns, and whoopie pies are great all year long! Which brings me to one of my favorite stories about a little stand I sometimes frequent…

The stand was manned by some young Amish boys and their sister. After making my selection of three ears of corn and a green pepper, the older boy, about 12 years old, calculated what I owed. I was fishing out the change, and thought I dropped a coin. But when I looked down, I was standing on a wooden grate, and figured it had fallen through. "No matter... it was probably only a nickel or a dime," I said to myself.

Homemade signs are often the hallmark of a family-owned business in Amish Country, like this one at Esh Handmade Quilts.

As I started to drive away, I noticed the older boy grabbing his younger brother's hand and shaking it. I thought they were just having some boisterous fun now that I was leaving. But when I looked one more time in my rearview mirror as I drove toward the road, I noticed the older boy running after me, waving his arms wildly.

I hit the brakes, rolled down the window, and waited to see what was wrong. When he arrived, he held out his hand and said, "You dropped this." What he had managed to get from his brother and had run to return to me was a penny. Almost embarrassed, I thanked him.

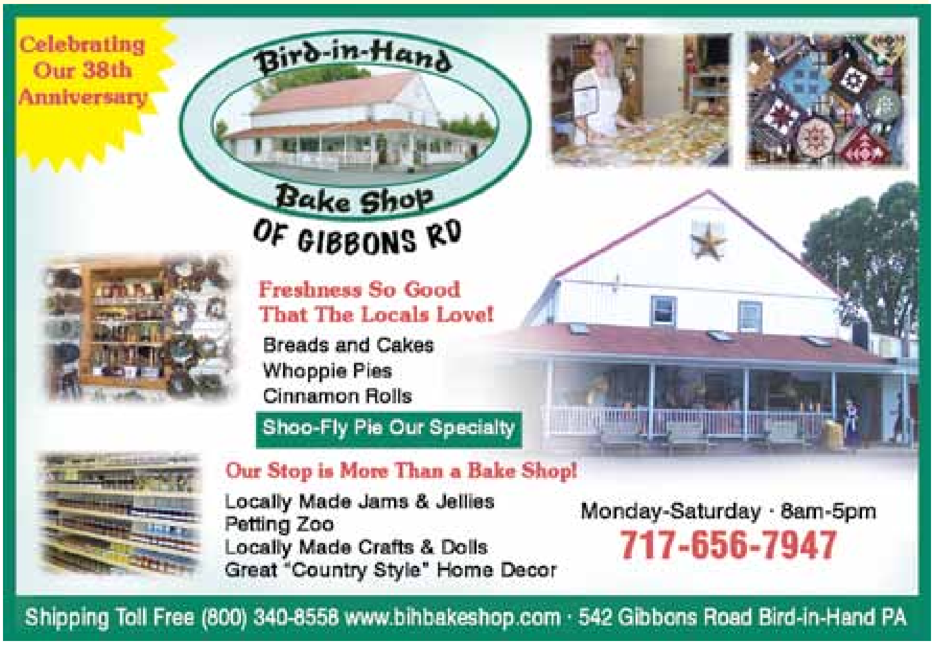
As I headed home, I remembered that old story about "honest" Abe Lincoln walking several miles to return some change to a customer. I reflected on the fact that although young people often make mistakes they regret, fortunately there are many raised where family values and doing the right thing are part of everyday life. For some reason, my always-wonderful corn tasted extra special that night.

So as you can see, for many of us, we patronize a business not just for what it has to offer by way of product or price, but for the people behind it. As you explore these pages, I hope you will better appreciate the many families that own and operate businesses in Amish Country. But even more, I hope you'll stop by some of them and meet these folks face-to-face.

Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop

Celebrating 38 Years of Goodness

Butch & Linda Miller
Owners



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Since 1972, the Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop has remained family owned and operated. Erwin (Sr.) & Annie Miller were the first of this family chain. Now in the second generation, Erwin (Jr.) & Linda Miller, along with their son, Glenn Miller (3rd generation, who has a son Erwin Miller III) have been running the business since 1996. Many of the recipes used today are still the "tried and true from scratch" recipes Grandma Miller used since the family began operating the business in 1972. The wonderful aroma of baking hits you almost before you're through the door. And it only gets better from there!

The family and its many Plain community employees want visitors to get that great homemade taste at a better price than commercial bakeries. "We take pride in the things that we bake and enjoy the look on people's faces as they taste our selection." And what a selection it is! You'll see varieties of fresh baked breads (their cheese bread is a personal favorite), potato rolls, cinnamon buns, "melt in your mouth" whoopie pies, gooey-bottom Dutch shoo-fly pie (their specialty), cookies, fruit pies, angel food and layer cakes, and many, many more items.

Through a window behind the counter, you can observe the mixing and baking process, and see trays of baked goods waiting to go into the display cases or to be sent to fulfill wholesale orders for several local restaurants. (Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop baked goods can also be found at various market stands in five different states.) The sweet scents of fresh breads and cookies always greet your nose!

Not only can you indulge your sweet tooth with a chocolate whoopie pie or a creamy cone of local ice cream, but Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop also offers its visitors a few extras. They have a fine selection of local handmade crafts. "Our wide assortment fits many people's tastes and interests." You'll find locally made Amish dolls, pillow cases, pictures, candles, Amish straw hats, hand painted slates, and much more. In addition there is always a variety of canned goods and bulk foods, especially popular with those large families that live in the area.

The Millers realized that with all that food and country peacefulness, visitors might want to linger and relax. "Our large wrap around porch provides an excellent place to enjoy a hot cinnamon roll and a steaming cup of coffee." And with more than enough green grass to go around, they have installed several picnic areas to enjoy, along with public restrooms and waste bins for your picnic use.

Finally, since the Millers have a family of their own, they know it is important to keep the children entertained on a vacation. "While you shop, your children can burn some energy outdoors in our huge play area." And any place in Amish Country just wouldn't be right without some animals. That's why they've added a petting zoo to their list of attractions.

It may be a little off the beaten path, but at the Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop you can truly savor the quiet peacefulness and baked goodness found only in the heart of Lancaster County. As the Millers would say, "You can consider yourself personally invited to come and spend a day with us in beautiful Amish Country. We are confident that you will find the baked goods, crafts, and location second to none."

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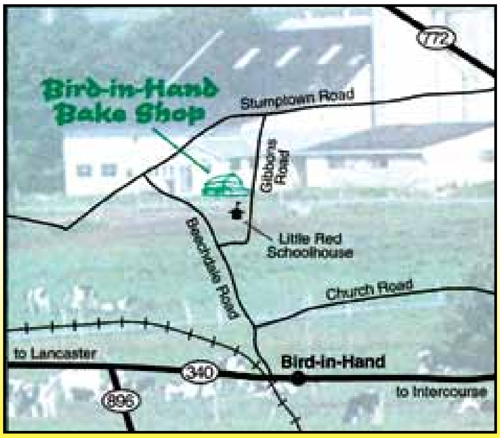

Quilt Getaway Weekends by *Threadmakers*

Leave the kids, the husband, and the house behind and join friends new and old at a quilting getaway weekend in Amish country.

Each weekend includes all sorts of sewing and quilting, whether on a fun group project, or something each quilter has been personally working on. Each quilter will also stitch their way through clues given by Geri Wolf, Threadmakers hostess, to discover the identity of a Mystery Quilt.

Geri's fun "Tricky Trade" kicks off the weekend and helps everyone get to know each other. There are also plenty of opportunities for dining out at Amish style restaurants, shopping for quilt and fabric supplies at discounted prices, and exploring interesting antique shops.

The group literally takes over an entire bed and breakfast inn, so once all the sewing machines are set up, they simply stay up all weekend. Fabric ends up being spread throughout the common room, making for a great and leisurely working space.

— Ladies with a T-Shirt Quilt

The cost of a weekend is $250, which includes two nights lodging, one country breakfast, one lunch, one supper, and a lovely Sunday brunch. At the time of this printing, available weekends for 2011 were October 14-16 and November 11-13. Reserve your space by sending a registration form (found at Threadmakers.com) and a $50 deposit to Geri Wolf, 182 Andover Place, Robbinsville NJ, 08691. You can call 609-443-6596 for details, or email Meadowswoman@aol.com. See ad below for a special Amish Country News Threadmakers coupon.

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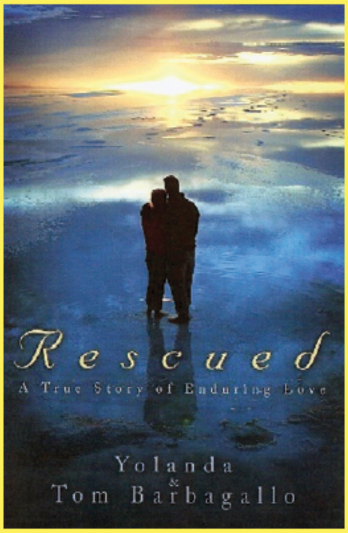

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"I just finished reading your book and wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed it. You have a great way with detail and a terrific sense of humor. I laughed out loud about some of the things you and Tom laughed about together...I especially enjoyed your stories about your daughters and the children you fostered and could relate to all the job changes you both went through. What a life you have had! Thank you for sharing it with me."
Carol

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★★★★★ **Great insight & look forward to more!**
Review by Jolene on 7/26/11 10:56 AM
Thank you ever so much to our great guide for a most interesting tour of the one-room schoolhouse and of the Amish country homestead, not to mention the fascinating tour of the farmlands of Lancaster County! Learned so much more than what I had thought to learn on this tour and look forward to visiting again and for doing the VIP Tour! A great thank you as well to the organizers of the tour, as due to traffic problems, I was late and could not make my reserved tour at 10am. This proved to be no problem at all and the ladies simply offered the later tour for me. Thank you so much!

★★★★★ **SuperSaver Tour...**
Review by Kit on 6/20/11 6:27 AM
My sister visited me and she had never been to Lancaster County. We did an overnighter and both of us were totally delighted with the tour. The tour directors were knowledgeable and friendly and answered all our questions. The movie was great. The Amish business and shop we visited were both fantastic. Friendly, friendly people thoughout the tour. I will do it again when introducting someone to Lancaster County and the Amish way of life. Price was in line with today's costs.

★★★★★ **VIP Tour...**
Review by Peggy on 7/26/11 9:41 AM
We so enjoyed this tour - worth every penny. The opportunity to sit down with an Amish family and share their life was eye-opening. To see a working dairy farm using their means of milking and cooling the milk was most interesting. And who would think gourd farming could support a family of 8? It does. I would recommend this tour for sure!!

★★★★★ **Super Saver Package April 2011...**
Review by Chaps on 4/27/11 9:55PM
We came all the way from Mexico to PA for 2 weeks and definitely these Amish tours were a great experience!!!! We loved the tour into the farms, watching the people working their lands, the kids in schools, the cows and mules, the shops...... and what it makes it more enjoyable is the guide, who knows and explains very well the Amish life. Hope we can repeat this experience again.

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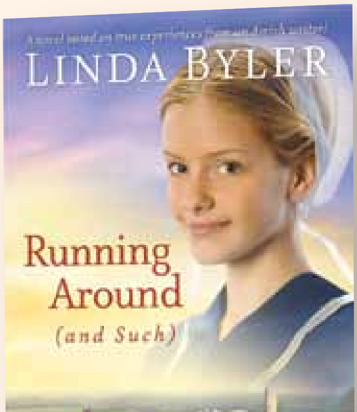
Lizzie's adventures continue in ***When Strawberries Bloom***, and ***Big Decisions***, the second and third books in the *Lizzie Searches for Love* series.



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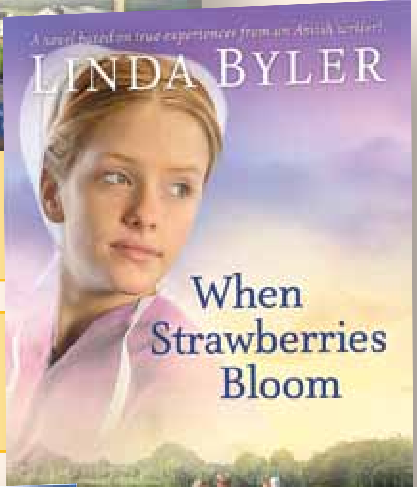

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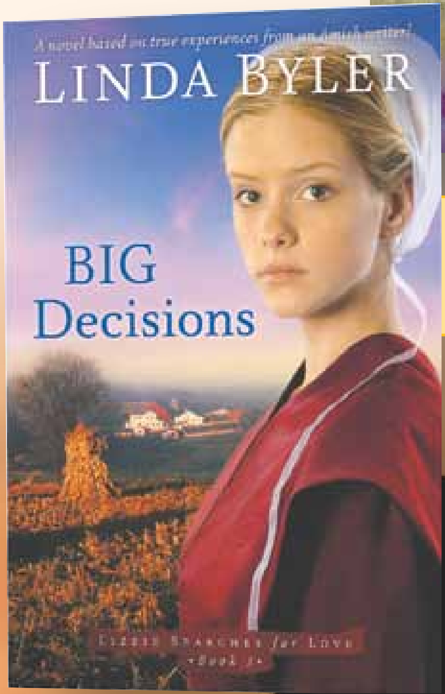

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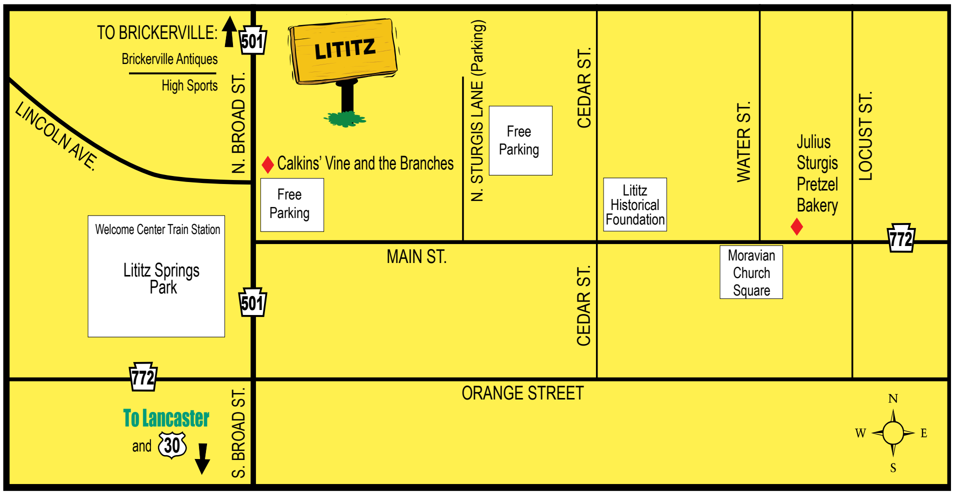

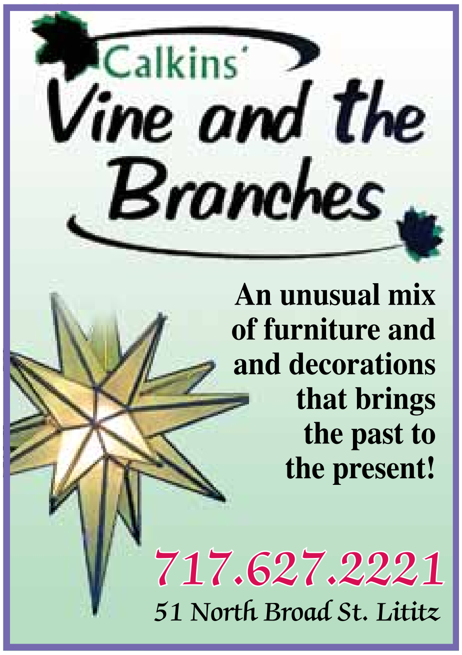
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There really is no place quite like Lititz, and visitors should plan time there while in Amish Country. Along with dozens of unique storefronts of family owned specialty shops, Lititz Springs Park, and its idyllic setting are a throwback to a quieter America. Indeed the town's spectacular 4th of July Celebration, begun in 1818, is reputedly the oldest continuing community-wide observance in the United States.

The Lititz story is tied to that of the Moravian faith in Bohemia. It was in the present day Czech Republic that John Hus founded the Moravian Church in 1457. Since this was 60 years before Luther's Reformation, the Moravians may lay claim as the oldest organized Protestant Church. But over the course of the Thirty Years War, its 200,000 members nearly disappeared.

As was the case with other persecuted religious groups in Europe, many Moravians sought freedom by taking the perilous journey to the New World, arriving in the early 1700's, with the main settlements in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. In 1755 the town actually took the name Lititz, the German spelling for Lidice, where European reformers has taken refuge in the 15th century.

In addition to mission work, music and education were important to the Moravians. In fact, the Lititz schoolhouse erected in 1746 marked the beginnings of what was to be Linden Hall, the oldest continuously operating residence school for girls in the United States.

For one hundred years, Moravian church members were the only people permitted to live in the town. A Brothers' House and Sisters' House were erected for the unmarried men and women, although they did not live communally. It was not until 1855 that non-

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Moravians were allowed to own their own homes. The complex of buildings comprising the Moravian congregation is well worth seeing, particularly the church built in 1787.

Two names are linked forever with the history of Lititz --- Sturgis and Sutter. It was Julius Sturgis who opened the first commercial pretzel bakery in the New World in Lititz. The year was 1861, and the site at 219 East Main Street is on the National Register of Historic Places. A tour of the bakery, still in operation, is unlike any other and well worth your time.

John Sutter was born in Switzerland and in 1834, fleeing creditors in Europe, arrived in New York. In time, he headed west and sailed up the Sacramento River to begin a settlement. By 1848, work was being done on a mill when some gold flakes were spotted in the water. Soon Gold Rush Fever struck and Sutter's land was overrun. Because of his need to be near Washington, D.C. while seeking reimbursement for his lost lands, the Sutters stayed one summer at the Springs Hotel in Lititz. They decided to make Lititz their home. The hotel has become the General Sutter Inn, and the Sutter home built in 1871 is across the street at 19 East Main Street.

The more you explore Lititz, the more you'll agree it is one of Amish Country's best kept secrets!

How Now, Chow Chow?

by Clinton Martin

Chow chow is surely the area's most famous relish, in fact, one might say that everyone relishes it! The story goes that a Pa Dutch woman would always be sure to set her table with seven sweets and seven sours. There seems to be little basis in fact for this legend, but, what is true, is that the sweets and sours at the table did compliment the noodles and potato dishes often served. Now, when the ladies neared the end of the canning season (cooking and sealing vegetables in jars), there were often odd amounts left over from their gardens, and, everything got combined as chow chow --- carrots, onions, cauliflower, cucumbers, cabbage, celery, corn, peppers, and assorted beans. It is sometimes referred to as "End of the Season" relish, and, although there is sugar in the liquid, it's that sour taste that everyone remembers, along with the colorful combination of veggies that look so appetizing. Try some yourself, freshly canned, at the Adams family Intercourse Canning Company. We do often! Call 768-0156.

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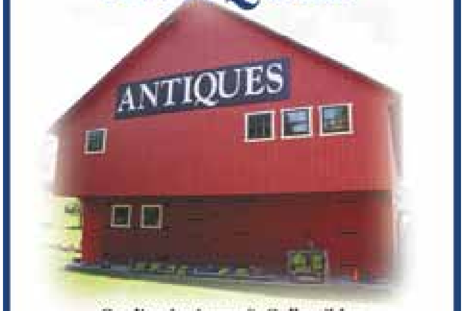

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Based on a True Story

Dear Reader,

A few years ago I met an amazing family. The Esh family inspired this book. Like the Sommer family—my characters in this book—the Eshes lost two daughters in a buggy and truck accident. Also, like the characters in my book, they moved from Indiana to Montana, where they became a part of a small, rural community—and where they discovered God in new and amazing ways.

I was thankful to get to know the Esh family, who took me into their struggle with losing children and moving. They also shared their joy in discovering God in the middle of their faith walk. In addition to that, I got to know many other people from their community. I learned what the Amish believe and why. And as I studied these people I began to think about ways I could apply some of their slow-paced, traditional lifestyle into my own family. No, I'm not going to throw out my television or go buy a horse and buggy, but I have been making a conscious effort to turn off electronics and spend time with my family and friends. I've also been inspired to do more cooking. My family appreciates this!

As readers pick up this story, I pray they will be able to consider things they need to leave behind—old beliefs, old struggles, old worries.

With care,
Tricia Goyer

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Two-Bedroom Suite
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by Clinton Martin

Amish Country Decor & More

Amish Country at Your Finger Tips

If you look long enough in Amish Country you are bound to find shops that handcraft just about anything you can imagine. Amish & Mennonite families, more and more, seek ways to supplement, or even replace, farm income. Working with their hands fits naturally into their way of life.

Homemade noodles, jams, & sauces, candles, soaps, birdhouses, birdfeeders, potpourri, hand-stitched items, gourds, tin lamps & shades, chandeliers, primitive dolls, beautiful wreaths, wrought iron home & garden products, outdoor cement products, pottery, tobacco lathe, primitive & country furniture, signs, flower arrangements, are among the many hand-crafts that await your exploration.

Down many a quiet country road, are small family-owned workshops offering their own craft specialties of the highest quality. Never mass-produced, each piece, of course, ends up absolutely unique. Truly, the American craftsperson is flourishing in Amish Country.

Amish Country Décor & More.com, is an unusual online storefront offering you the best of locally hand-made treasures from authentic Amish craft sources that you simply could never find on your own.

Brandi Hurst, one of the creators of this unusual web site concept, explained the history and mission of Amish Country Décor & More quite simply. Most Amish just want to concentrate on making their handcrafts and their products. They are not interested in taking time away from the business of making to try to sell them. Further, Brandi told us, Amish are not permitted to market their products on the internet because of their religious beliefs. That's where Amish Country Decor comes in. They market and sell what the Amish are producing in their homes and on their farms offering a selection that would be impossible to duplicate on your own.

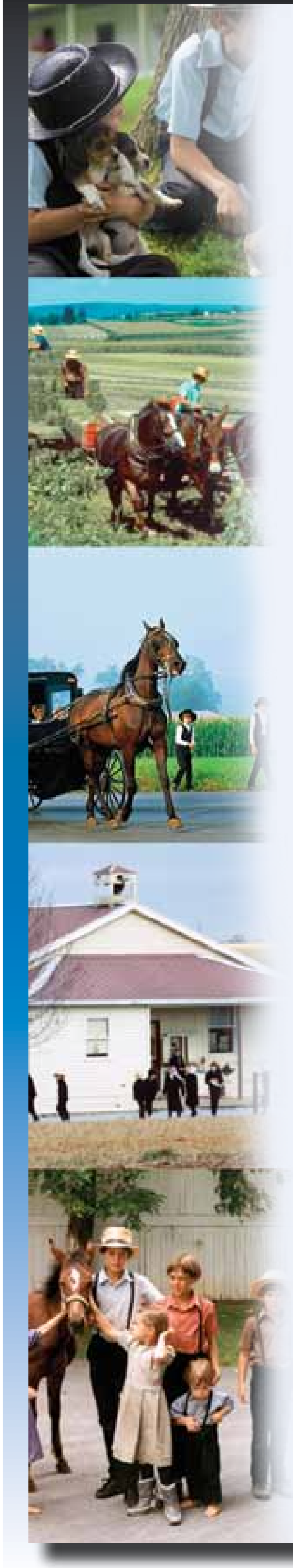
Your online order is packed securely, offering an ideal way to shop for the missing must-have after your visit to Amish Country, and year-round shopping from the comfort of your home for items you won't find anywhere else. No longer a reason not to be enjoying a slice of Amish Country Americana when the mood hits you!

Primitives from AmishCountryDécorAndMore.com

2011 Amish Series

by Brad Igou

Pay Unto Caesar: The Amish and Social Security



Many people believe the Amish pay no taxes. They do. But, while not originally, they are now exempted from paying Social Security taxes. The background of the "Amish Exemption" is full of drama, clashes with government, issues of religious freedom, politics, and much more. In writing this five-part series, I was privileged to have access to many original materials and personal letters.

Part 3: The Media Gets Involved

While Social Security was called a tax and administered by the IRS beginning in the 1950's, it was also clearly described as a form of old age and survivors insurance. In a 1961 press release, the IRS recognized the Amish stance that "Social Security payments, in their opinion, are insurance premiums and not taxes. They, therefore, will not pay the 'premium' nor accept any of the benefits."

The dispute came to the public's attention after the IRS seized the horses of a Pennsylvania Amishman, Valentine Byler, to pay for back Social Security taxes he owed and had refused to pay. Of course, he needed these horses to prepare his fields, do his planting, reap the harvest, and earn his living.

Much like today, the debate over increased taxes and Social Security were of great concern to the general public and the new Kennedy administration. It didn't take long for the Byler story to hit the newspapers, and not just in the United States. The IRS admitted that some Communist countries picked up the story to show the hypocritical attitude of our government and lack of true freedom in the United States.

The newspapers in America basically responded in support of the Amishman. The ***Yonkers Herald Statesman*** noted:

> *Many of us resent central government insistence that it must impose on us all the costs of cradle-to-grave care as defined by bureaucrats. Yet we pay and pay and pay the taxes demanded because we have not yet been able to devise a sound way of escape.*

The ***New York Herald Tribune***, under the headline "Welfarism Gone Mad," stated in part:

> *The majesty and might of the Federal government have now been marshaled against Valentine Y. Byler. His horses — which, since Amish rules forbid the use of tractors, represent his means of livelihood — have been seized and sold at auction.*
>
> *What kind of "welfare" is it that takes a farmer's horses away at spring plowing time in order to dragoon a whole community into a 'benefit' scheme it neither needs nor wants, and which offends its deeply held religious scruples?*

And from the ***Ledger-Star*** in Norfolk, Virginia:

> *When the last Amish buggy has disappeared from the dusty by-road, or has been sold like Valentine Byler's three plow horses, it will mark more than the passing of a sect who were overwhelmed by time and change. It will mark also a milestone in the passing of freedom — the freedom of people to live their lives undisturbed by their government so long as they lived disturbing no others. It was a freedom the country once thought important.*

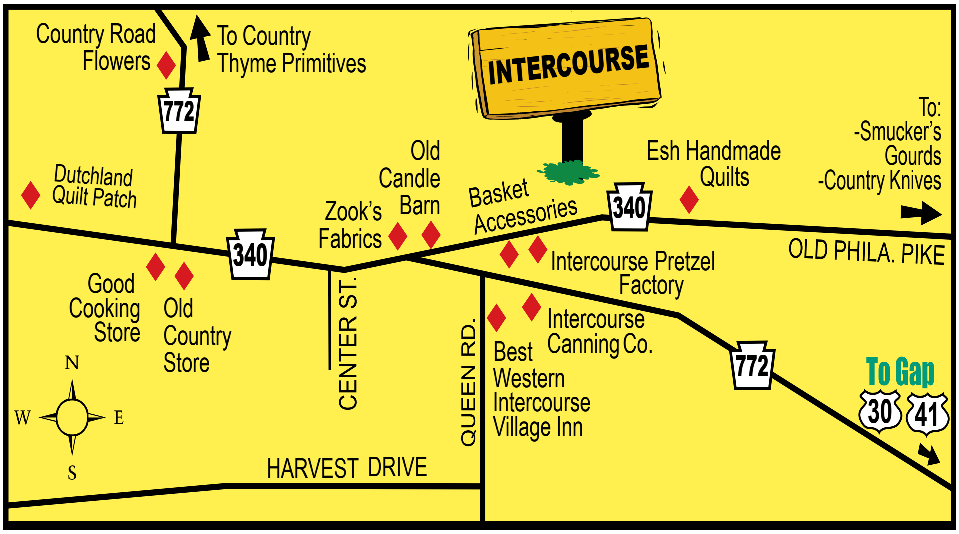
Another article, included in a letter sent to Valentine himself, showed that government's action had touched a raw nerve with many. It was the classic "little guy" against "big government." A writer in "Human Events" lashed out at just about everybody:

> *It is unlikely that the name Valentine Byler comes up between Bach fugues at the White House, or during the poolside dunkings of Bobby [Kennedy] and his pals. The Ford Foundation is unlikely to commission Marc Blitzstein to glorify him in opera as it has done for Sacco and Vanzetti, and neither Carl Sandburg nor Robert Frost will honor him in verse.*

While the debate in Washington over budget excesses and entitlement spending continues today in the halls of Congress, is it not reassuring that our government at least had the common sense to allow our Amish neighbors the freedom to reject the Federal safety net of Social Security in favor of a belief that the family is best equipped to handle their own aging and medical needs?

Next Installment --- Part 4: The Public Reaction

Welcome to Intercourse PA



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Perhaps no other town in the entire country can claim its fame on one simple thing --- its name. Harrison Ford drove a buggy past the road sign on a memorable visit in the Hollywood blockbuster hit of the movie Witness. For years people have postmarked "Intercourse" on envelopes, and the jokes from visitors who travel through Bird-in-Hand to Intercourse are endless. There are several theories for the name, but that which we find most plausible follows.

Around 1730, the Old Provincial Highway (now Route 340) was laid out to connect Philadelphia with Lancaster. Conestoga wagons hauled freight back and forth between the two cities. Providing rest for travelers and horses, taverns sprouted along the way, becoming centers for news, gossip, and commerce. The construction of a log tavern in 1754 at the intersection of

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Newport Road and the Highway took "Cross Keys" as its name.

It remained such until 1814, when the name was changed to Intercourse as part of a failed real estate scheme of a Mr. George Brungard, who had acquired 48 acres of nearby land and attempted to lay out a town site and divide it into sections for sale by a lottery, advertising "151 handsome building lots of $250 each to be drawn for by number." Renaming the town made sense, as intercourse had a common usage referring to the pleasant mutual fellowship and frequent intermingling which were so common in the informal atmosphere of the quiet country village.

Over time, Brungard's scheme begat others. As recently as 1971, an enterprising soul tried to take advantage of the town's name by selling deeds for one-inch square plots of Intercourse to visitors. Creative, but nonetheless a failure. By 1880, Intercourse had a population of 280 with a post office that actually moved among stores or restaurants as owners hoped visits by residents would increase their business.

Continued on Page 32

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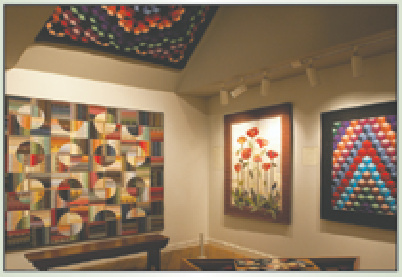
The QUILT MUSEUM at The Old Country Store



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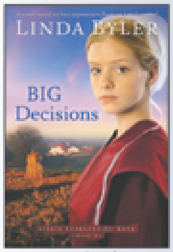

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Intercourse Pretzel Factory

by Clinton Martin

Enjoy freshly made pretzels!

In October of 1995 the Intercourse Pretzel Factory opened its doors, but you might say, almost by accident... When Cross Keys Village became a retail center, an old pretzel company from Lancaster agreed to move to the complex. The building was renovated, but in the meantime, the Lancaster folks changed their minds!

As a theme designer for restaurants, Intercourse Pretzel Factory proprietor Donna Clark had been developing themes and finding tenants for properties throughout south-central PA. During her creative work for Cross Keys Village, the idea of handmade pretzels and the concept of a working pretzel factory intrigued her. It wasn't long before she decided to start the Pretzel Factory herself! 16 years later, she found that one thing lead to another, and another, and the "factory" is now an eclectic mix, from pretzels to antiques to bulk spices and vintage era candy. The antiques amuse folks as they recall things from their youth and spend more time looking around the shop. It all makes Donna happy as her vision was for the store to not only be about fine pretzels, but about memories and heritage. Job well done, Donna!

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Amish Heirlooms at Gish's

by Clinton Martin

When you step into the beautifully appointed showroom of Gish's Furniture, you are stepping into a delightful story of family, friendship, and outstanding craftsmanship - all from a most simple source. The first chapter actually takes you back to Ohio, to a sort of "sister-city" to our local Amish settlement. Michael Gish, son of A. Samuel and Grace Gish, worked for Miller's Furniture in Plain City, Ohio, where he learned a great deal about the Amish furniture industry. He came to realize however, that even among the Amish community, skill levels were not the same and certain craftsmen were capable of an even higher level of workmanship. It was these, and only these select workshops that Mr. Gish decided to introduce to his customers. Eventually he decided to move to Pennsylvania and open a furniture showroom featuring incredible pieces from hand-picked artisans.

Today, Gish's carries furniture from kitchen tables, hutches, office desks and curios to bedroom furniture and baby cribs. All furniture is primarily available in solid oak or cherry wood and in 15 different stain colors. Since you'd probably never hear Amish craftsmen brag about their work, Michael has to extol their virtues for them! He proudly tells us that, "You can have solid wood, handcrafted furniture, custom made to match your home's décor for what many stores charge for veneers and cheap substitutes. This is furniture built to last a lifetime."

Find Gish's Furniture at 2191 Lincoln Highway East (Route 30), Lancaster. Call 717-392-6080 or go online to www.gishs.com for details. They are also happy to arrange for shipping anywhere so you can shop without worrying about how to carry your pieces home. It is a family business with Michael's wife, mother, father, and brother all contributing to its success. Michael and Teresa have two sons, Matthew (Jan. 07) and Ezekiel (Mar. 10).

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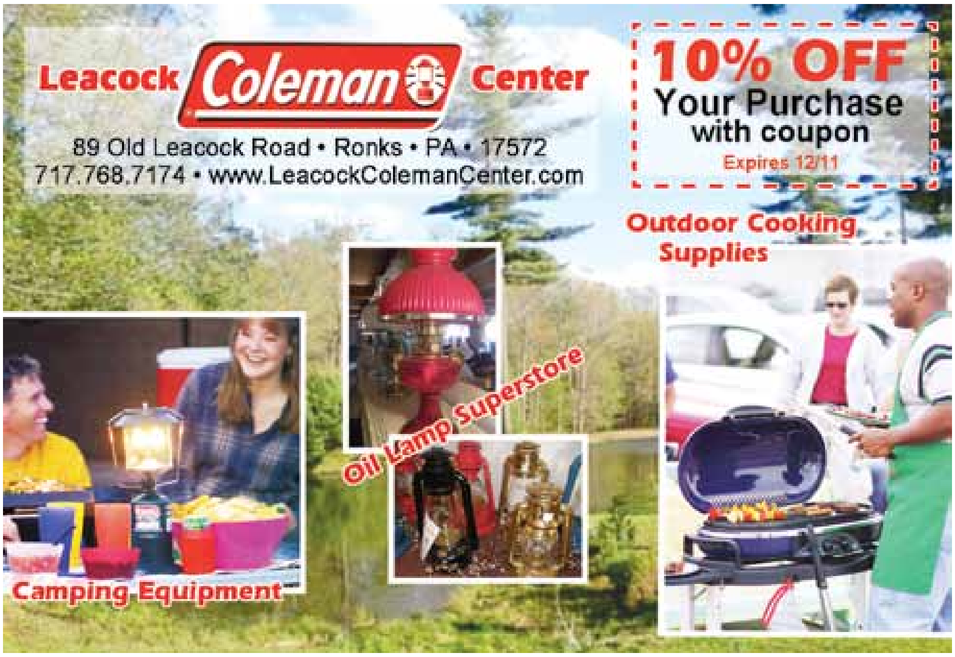

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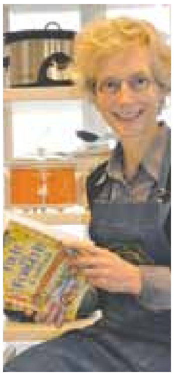

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Amish Fiction Grows in Popularity

Enjoying a novel about a plain-dressed heroine finding love and fulfillment in her Amish community has been tops on many reader's lists for years now. Today, the world of Amish-themed fiction is quickly branching out from this central cord. Author Wanda Brunstetter, under the roof of Barbour Publishers, who is often credited with kick-starting the genre in the first place, has launched what is sure to be a very popular series about a young Amish girl, Rachel Yoder. The latest collection follows little Rachel in her adventures around the farm, schoolyard, and, of course, the home.

We asked two young readers of Amish Country News, Ava Layton and Tenana Jones, to read the latest Rachel Yoder stories, and share their feelings with us.

—Clinton Martin

A Happy Heart
by Wanda Brunstetter

Read by Ava Layton, age 8

I read "A Happy Heart" by Wanda Brunstetter. This is one of a lot of stories about a young Amish girl named Rachel Yoder. This is a story that shows the life of Rachel Yoder. I liked reading about a loud, crazy chicken on their farm named Hector who did all types of funny things, like eating the food belonging to Buddy, the Yoder's dog and having a yogurt cup stuck on his nose.

The main part of the story was about Rachel not being able to see the blackboard at school. She didn't want her parents to know because she didn't want to wear glasses, so she didn't show them the note the teacher sent about her not seeing well. She got into big trouble for this. She did get glasses and was not very happy because the kids at school teased her about her "four eyes". A wise adult named Esther helped her by telling her to "make up her mind to be happy".

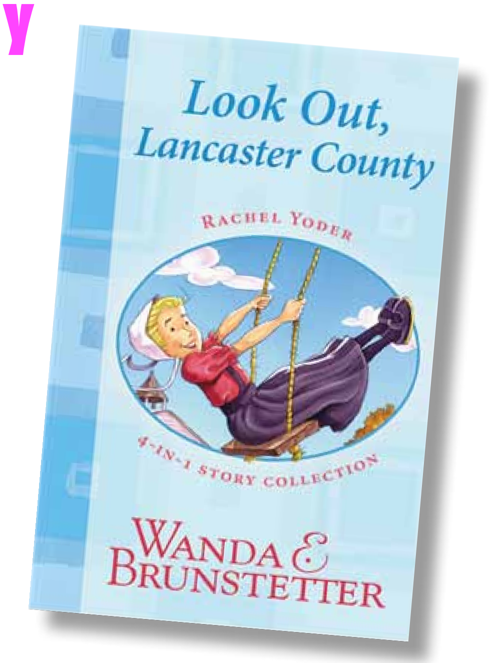
I think children of my age should read this book because it is funny and fun to read. I will read more books about Rachel Yoder and her life.

Lookout Lancaster County
by Wanda Brunstetter

Read by Tenana Jones, age 11

I liked reading "Out of Control", one of the books in Lookout Lancaster County by Wanda Brunstetter. The story is about a young Amish girl named Rachel Yoder who seemed to have a knack for getting into trouble. Some of the things she did that got her in trouble were forgetting to study for tests at school, and "copy-catting" off a classmate's paper at school. Rachel usually obeyed her mother and father and did her homework, but one night she was sleepy and decided to go to sleep instead of studying for a test to be given at school the next day. When she took the test she had not studied so she cheated by copy-catting off a classmate's paper. Rachel got into big trouble, but I won't give away how. Let's just say she learned a big lesson.

I think children my age would love this book. I liked that the writer included Dutch words that are used by the children and the Amish adults. I also learned a lot about how Amish girls my age live.



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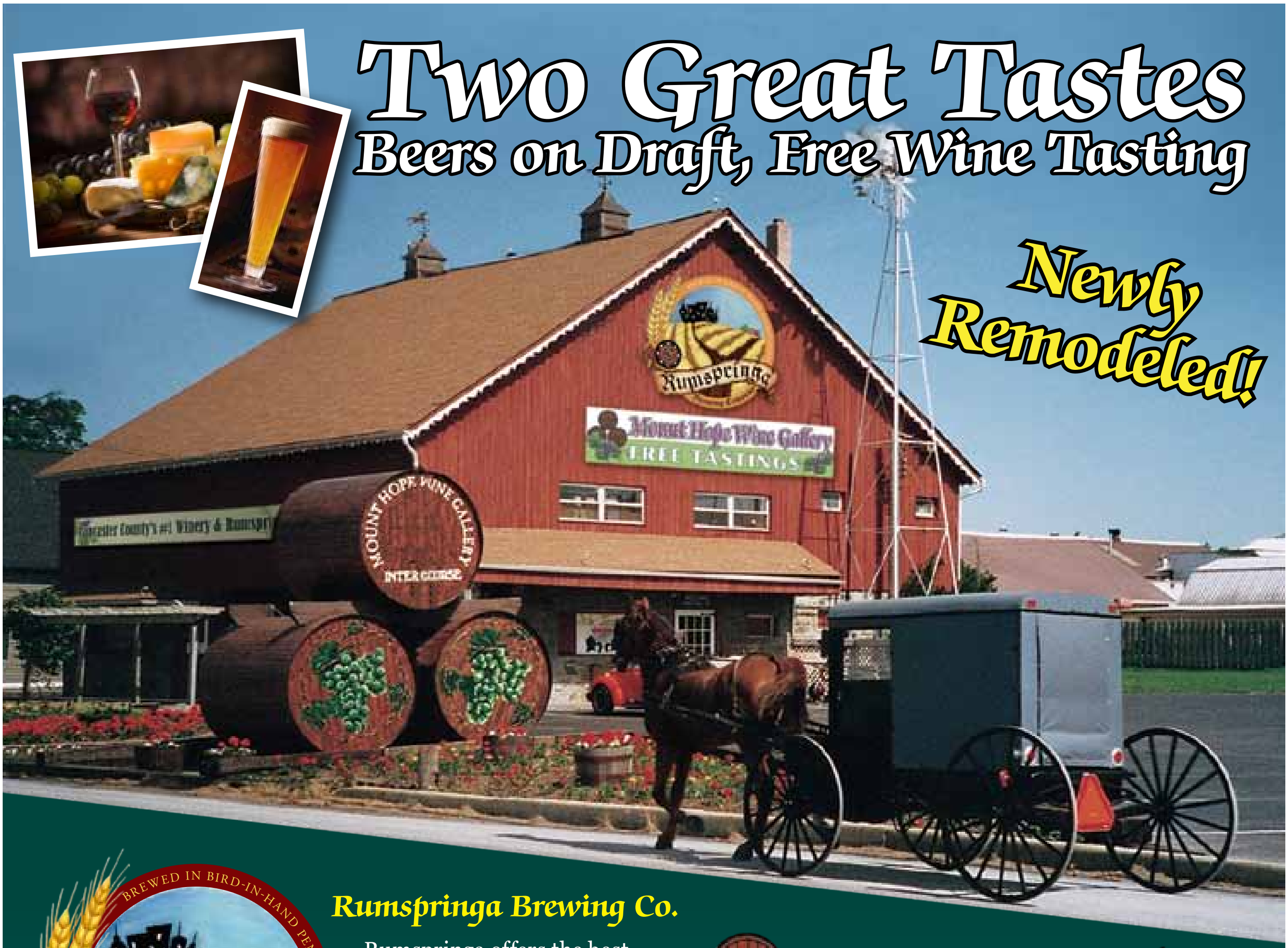

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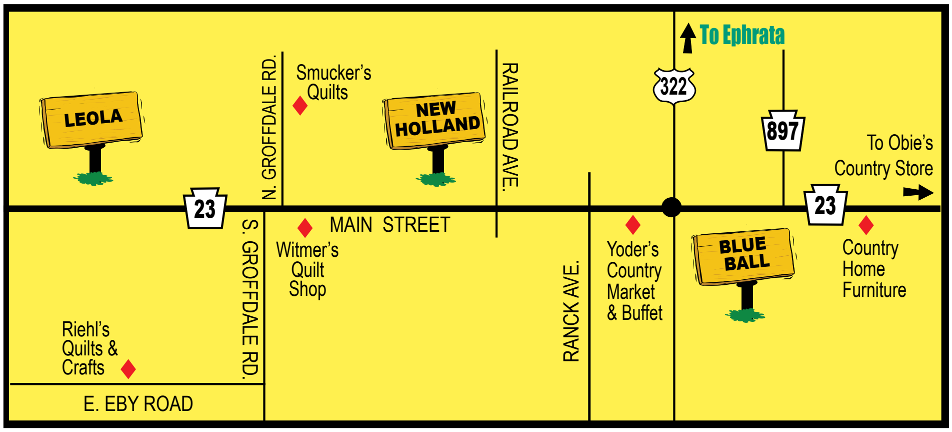
This entire century had been one of continued misery for the peasants of the Palatinate (western Germany). The Thirty Years War had raged across the area with barbaric ruthlessness. The peasant inhabitants fled to nearby Holland for refuge. And within a decade of the end of that conflict, King Louis XIV of France started a new religious war in the same general area. These Palatinate peasants were exhausted by war's desolation, and were ripe for a new start. Traveling land agents for William Penn's new colony found willing ears. In addition to religious freedom and a peaceful existence, Penn offered cheap land. The stated price was 100 English pounds for 5,000 acres. (At today's rate exchange, this would be less than $.04 an acre). By the year 1702, a goodly number of Palatinates had immigrated to Pennsylvania, and Queen Anne, newly reigning in England, was delighted that Penn was colonizing his immense grant without drawing off the population of Britain.

The area today called New Holland was practically covered by virgin forests—sturdy timbers of oak, ash, chestnut, and walnut. By 1728, William Penn had been dead for 10 years and his American colony, called Pennsylvania, was being administered by a proprietary governor while the sale of land was formalized by patent deeds.

In 1802, when a post office was established and an official name was necessary, there was no dissension to naming the town New Holland.

These grateful people remembered how extremely kind the inhabitants of Holland were to them, with assistance thought to have included funds to cover the cost of the refugee German immigrants' ocean voyage.

This was no small matter when the alternative was indentured service for a period of years. For adults, indenture frequently meant four to seven years of labor without pay. Minors served until their 21st birthday. But still, William Penn's Quaker Pennsylvania was a liberation compared to the Europe they fled seeking freedom of religion, assembly and speech to all, hopefully, none of which we take for granted today.



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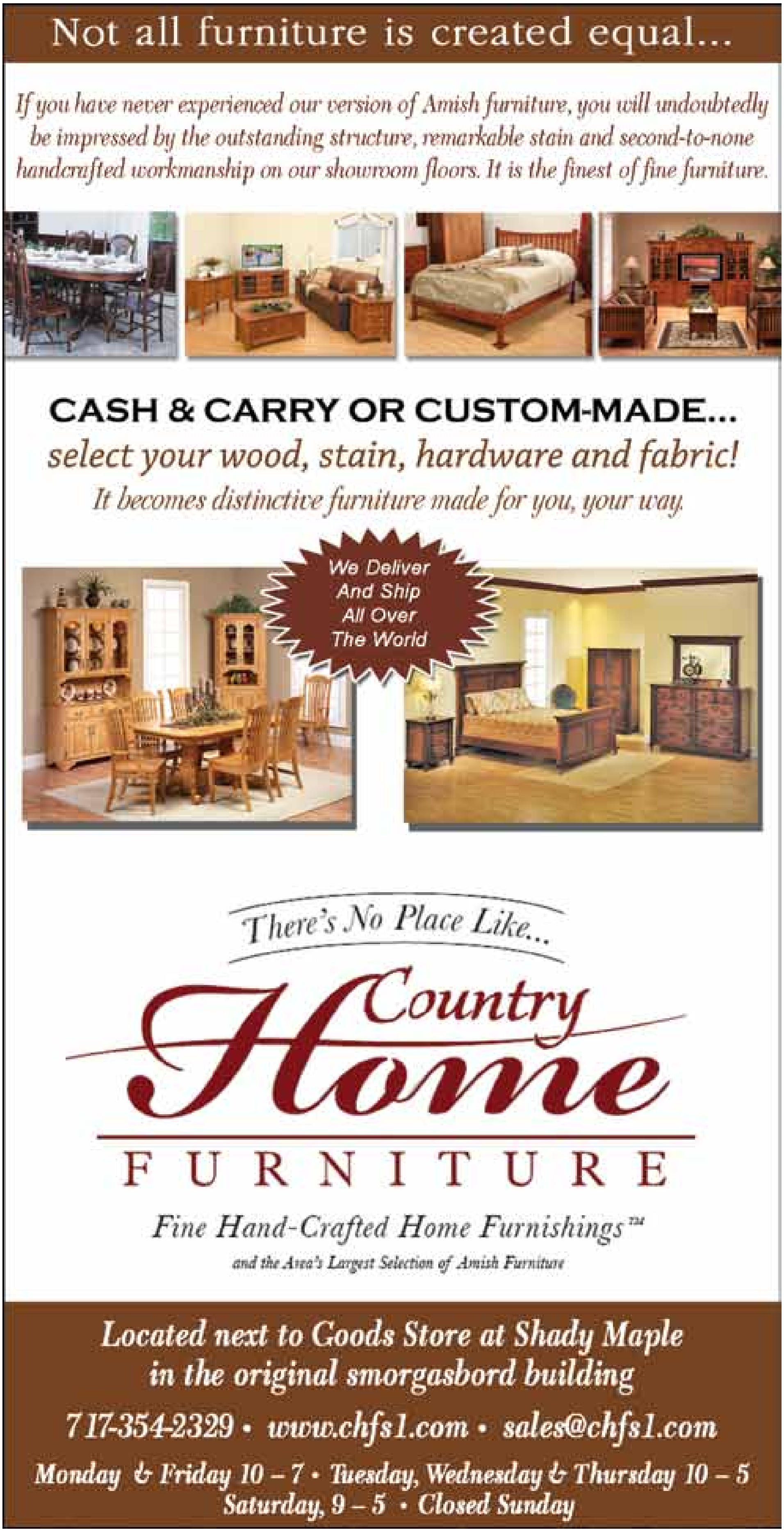
HOURS: Monday through Saturday: 6 AM—8 PM ~ Sunday Brunch: 10 AM—2 PM



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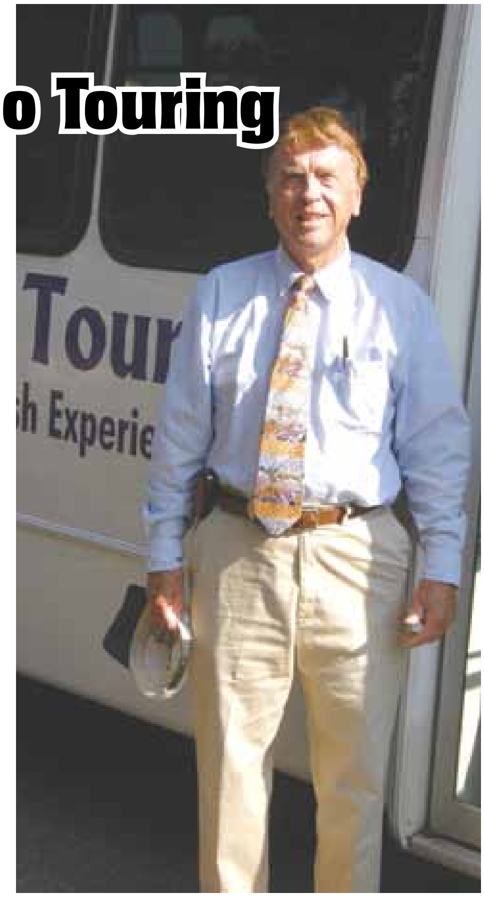
by Brad Igou



When Bill Earhart was a little boy, a man would come with a team of horses to work on the family garden. He observed the quiet tranquility involved in the gardener's work. Perhaps this was a seed that was to blossom and grow later in the rich soil of retirement.

After high school, Bill attended Lancaster Business College and went on to work at two local companies. But he soon realized that a desk job wasn't for him and, combined with his interest in young people and coaching, decided to go into education.

Not long after graduating from Elizabethtown College and Temple University, when Donegal Middle School contacted him to teach history and English and coach basketball, Bill had found what he was looking for. He went on to start a high school girls basketball program in 1975, and a team that won the Lancaster-Lebanon Championship in 1980. After 17 years teaching, he became assistant principal. Then 14 years later, his challenging years in education at an end, it was time to "retire."

Bill had always been intrigued by the Amish, and enjoyed the peacefulness of the countryside. He wanted to learn more and knew of a teacher friend who had become a tour guide. Might this be for him?

Bill arrived at the Amish Country Tours office around 1994, expressed interest, and soon was in a guide class for several weeks, took the test, and began giving tours as a certified guide. Bill was just going to guide for only a few years, but has now been explaining Amish culture for over 17! "It's the first job I ever had that I look forward to every day," he enthused.

I asked if he has any favorite scenes as he travels the backroads. He reflected on it for a while and told me it would be the Amish out plowing the fields with their horses, surrounded by a flock of seagulls. "That scene simply combines my interest in bird-watching with the Amish."

So what is the attraction of a tour guide? Bill says it's about meeting people from all over the world while staying right here at home. He likes to mingle and talk to people at tour stops, making their vacation enjoyable by sharing what he has learned over the years. The challenge is "to make each tour special," since each is definitely different.

Bill has tried to keep track of how many people he has taken on tour, and calculates it to be about 40,000 visitors! Perhaps, if you're lucky, Bill will add you to his list of curious visitors wanting to better understand our Amish neighbors.

Editor's Note: It is our pleasure, from time to time, to highlight guides who have been giving tours of Amish Country over the years. So many have such interesting stories. Their knowledge and understanding has enhanced the experiences of thousands of visitors.

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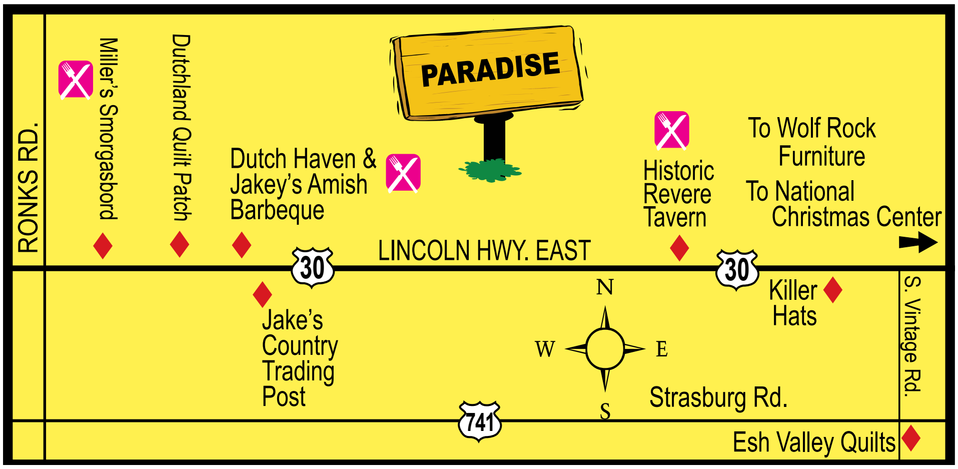
Welcome to Our Paradise



Visitors to Lancaster from the east on RT 30 travel through Paradise, just one of our many intriguing town names. The town's story traces back to Europe over 300 years ago, to the area of the Palatinate in Germany where Protestants had settled following the declaration of King Louis XIV that all Protestants in France would be persecuted. Fearing a French invasion, many accepted the invitation to settle in the New World in William Penn's colony of Penn's Woods. By 1712, they had secured land in Lancaster's Pequea Valley as the area's first white people, living peaceably with local Indians.

The origins of RT 30, also known as "Lincoln Highway," date back to Lancaster's Colonial days when the frontier county needed a highway to connect it with the provincial capital of Philadelphia. The road that was constructed is now Route 340, still refered to as the "Old Philadelphia Pike." Soon, it was apparent that the Pike was insufficient to handle the increasing traffic, and in 1790, a commission to survey a new route between was created. Since the cost was too much for the state to undertake, the company charged with building it was given the power to demand "reasonable" tolls from users. Investors received dividends earned from tolls collected along the gates of the turnpike. (As the toll was paid, the gate or "pike" was turned, hence the term "turnpike").

The Act described the construction of the highway, which was to be a bed of small crushed stones on top with, rather than dirt, larger stones underneath to prevent carriage wheels from cutting into the soil. This revolutionary system of road construction is credited to a John McAdam, whose name became the term for paved or "macadam" roads. The turnpike opened in 1795 as the first long-distance, hard surfaced road in the country. Taverns and stagecoach shops grew up along the turnpike for weary travelers. Of these, the Revere Tavern, dating back to 1740 and originally called the "Sign of the Spread Eagle", still proudly stands today. In 1841, the tavern became the residence of Reverend Edward V. Buchanan and his wife Eliza Foster Buchanan. Eliza was the sister of Stephen Foster, whose immortal songs will always be a part of Americana. Foster not only penned music at the tavern, but sent many of his manuscripts to Eliza, also a talented musician, for her approval. On the banks of the Pequea Creek, Eliza and Stephen played many of Stephen's 200 songs, including "Way Down Upon the Swanee River" and "Oh, Susanna." So, wherever you happen to call "paradise", we hope you can see that a little bit of our own Paradise absolutely won't do you any harm!

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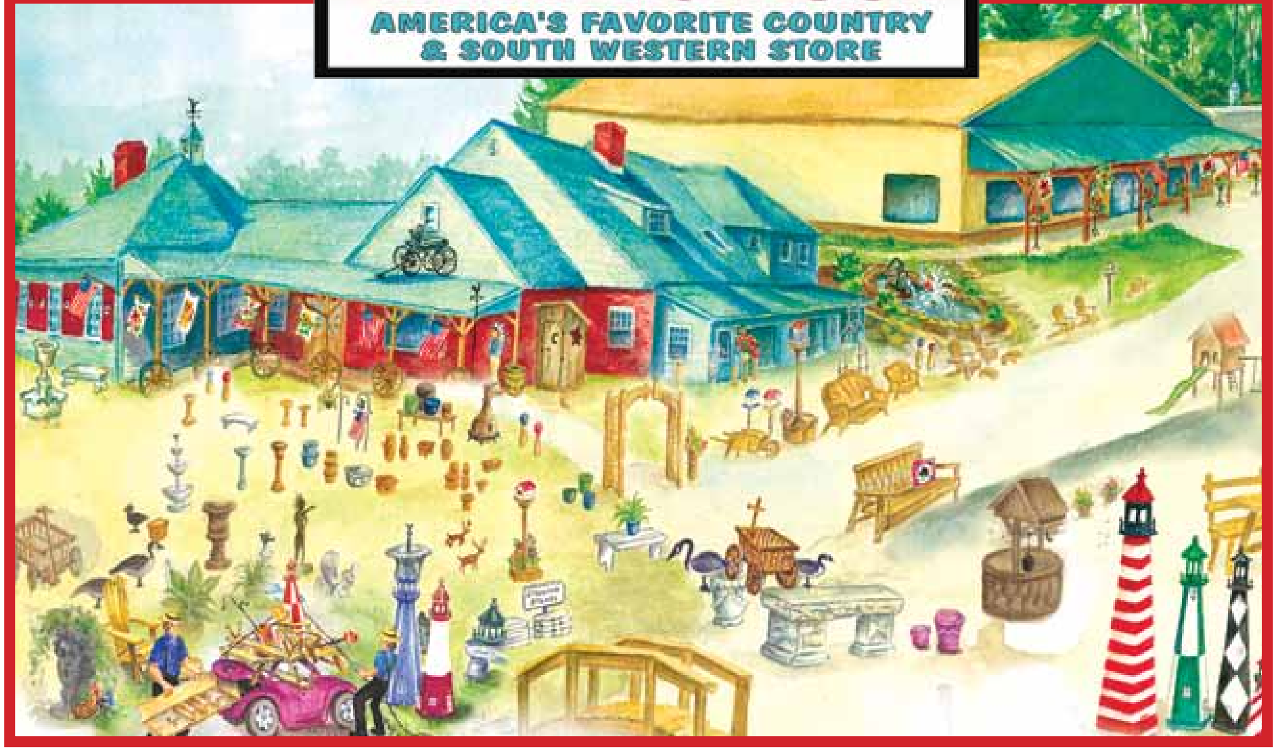

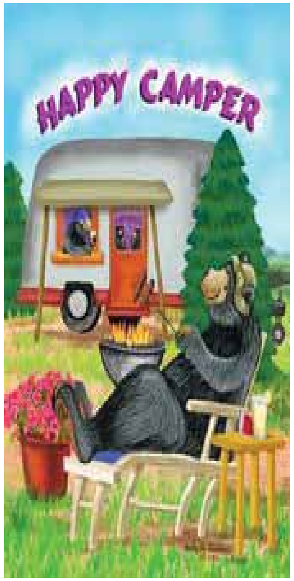

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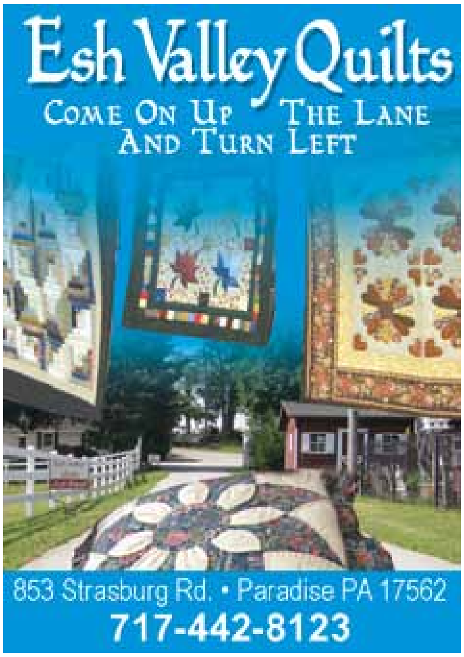
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INTERCOURSE (Continued from Page 21)

The local stagecoach service started around 1898 as "a single horse conveyance similar to a market wagon, with a roll-up curtain and double set of seats." When the stagecoach driver knew of passengers beforehand, their comfort on cold days was added to with the placement of hot bricks heated in the oven, and wrapped in newspaper to preserve their warmth.

As the days of the dirt road drew to a close, so too did the stagecoach era. In 1923 a Transit Company was organized and bus service initiated to and from Lancaster. While "many of the Amish residents of the area were anxious to see the line started, they did not want to invest in stock of the Company. Instead they bought books of tickets which were really prepaid bus fares." Enough money was raised to buy a Mack Auto Bus for $6,800. It held 25 passengers and even had solid rubber tires!

Today Intercourse has been recognized as a "foodie" town by the Visitor's Bureau. With the Intercourse Canning Company welcoming visitors from around the world to sample and purchase its much sought after lines of jams, jellies and canned fruits and vegetables; the Intercourse Pretzel Factory making artisan hand-rolled pretzels; and, the restaurant at the Intercourse Best Western Inn serving up home-made PA Dutch specialties throughout the day, there's plenty to satisfy one's hunger.

Some of the town's most interesting specialty shops include Country Road Flowers for beautiful arrangements; the Old Candle Barn for candles and a whole lot more; and Basket Accessories with its vast selection of Amish and other baskets.

The Old Country Store with its amazing quilts for sale, also has a notable museum on the second floor, and nearby are the Village Pottery and the Main Street Book Shop. Brand new this year is The Good Cooking Store, with all kinds of wonderful things for the kitchen.

Just to the west of town is the Mount Hope Wine Gallery, where new this year, you can now sample and purchase local micro-brews from the Swashbuckler Brewing Company. Heading east you'll find Esh's Handmade Quilts, a visitor favorite right on an Amish dairy farm, and a bit further, Country Knives, an unexpected find that truly is "one sharp store."

Over the years, this fascinating village certainly has changed, but slowly, and, it seems to us, that sometimes the things that grow the slowest are the ones that endure the longest.

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Beloved author of Amish fiction, Wanda E. Brunstetter is coming to a store near you. Stop by any of the locations listed below for an autographed copy of one her newest books!

UPCOMING BOOK SIGNINGS

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Hackman's
1341 Mickley Road
Whitehall, PA 18052
6:00*p*–8:00*p*

Friday, Sept. 9th —
Shady Maple Restaurant
129 Toddy Drive
East Earl, PA 17519
5:00*p*–7:00*p*

Saturday, Sept. 10th —
LifeWay Christian Book Store
2320 Industrial Highway
York, PA 17402
12:00*p*–2:00*p*

Monday, Sept. 12th —
Bird in Hand Restaurant
2760 Old Philadelphia Pike
Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505
11:00*a*–1:00*p*

Tuesday, Sept. 13th —
Miller's Smorgasbord
2811 Lincoln Hwy E (Rt. 30)
Ronks, PA 17572
4:00*p*–6:00*p*

Wednesday, Sept. 14th —
Plain & Fancy
Farm and Gift Shop
at the Amish Experience
3121 Old Philadelphia Pike
(Rt. 340)
Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505
4:00*p*–6:00*p*

Visit www.wandabrunstetter.com for more information!

Enjoy An Authentic Lancaster County Dining Experience.

Bring family, friends and neighbors to enjoy our traditional Lancaster County home cooking and you'll see why we've been chosen as one of AAA's Top 10 BEST "down-home dining" restaurants in North America, as well as being voted "the best" Lancaster County family style restaurant. Staffed with local cooks who have devoted years to preparing outstanding food, Good 'n Plenty is like no other restaurant in the heart of the Pennsylvania Dutch area.

Our new single-serving Harvest Platters start at just $9.95

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You can dine with us in two different ways – the traditional All You Can Eat Family Style Seating, with endless servings, or our new Harvest Platters, with single-serving entrees and individual table seating. Both dining options may include favorites like baked country ham, real mashed potatoes, crispy fried chicken, baked country sausage, noodles, vegetables, pork 'n sauerkraut, homemade bread, shoo fly pie...and much, much more. For the best in local country cooking and a dining experience you are sure to enjoy visit Good 'n Plenty today!

Stop By Our Bakery & Gift Shop

Be sure to visit our famous bake shop, where you can purchase some of the best goodies found in the area, including shoo fly pies and sticky buns – all baked fresh daily. Don't forget to check out our unique gift shops. We cater to so much more than PA Dutch mementos. Shop for family and friends or just pamper yourself with a well-deserved gift.

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JUNE	★		★	★
JULY	★	★	★	★
AUGUST	★	★	★	★
SEPTEMBER	★	★	★	★
OCTOBER	★	★	★	★
NOVEMBER	★		★	★
DECEMBER			★	★

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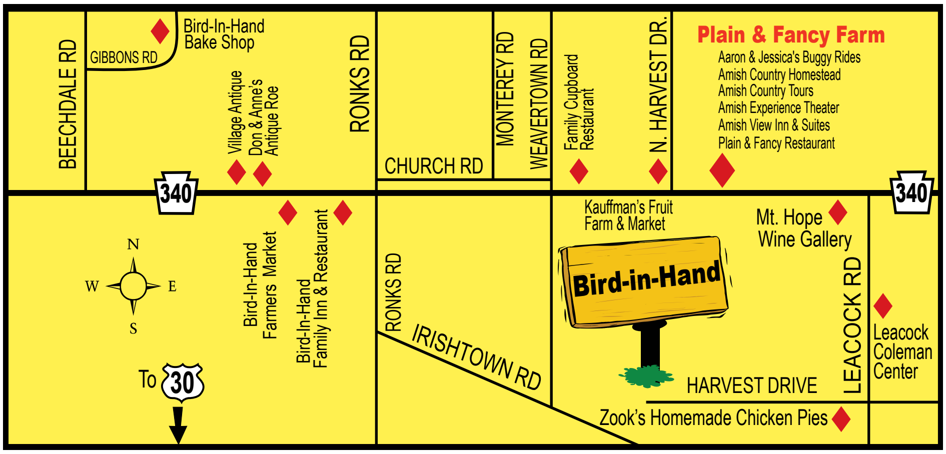
Welcome to the Village of Bird-in-Hand



Of the many unique village names that dot the Amish Country map, one of the more interesting is Bird-in-Hand. William Penn, an English Quaker, had founded the colony of Penn's Woods (Pennsylvania), and settlers began arriving from Europe in the early 1700's, moving westward from Philadelphia. The trip by stagecoach, or Conestoga wagon with freight and merchandise, lasted several days. Inns were built every few miles, identified with signs held by an iron pole or attached to the side of the building. The reason for the signs was so that they could be understood by all nationalities. Further, since many teamsters or wagoneers were poorly educated they could not read. Given orders to stop at a certain inn, they were able to do so by recognizing the artwork on the signboard.

The legend of the naming of Bird-in-Hand dates to the time when the Old Philadelphia Pike was being laid out. By 1734, surveyors at McNabb's Hotel were discussing whether they should stay at their present location or return to Lancaster to spend the night, one of them said, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." The sign in front of the inn, which became known as the Bird-in-Hand Inn, is known to have once "portrayed a man with a bird in his hand and a bush nearby, in which two birds were perched.

Variations of this sign appear throughout the town today. McNabb's Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1851.

By the following year, a three-story hotel was built to replace it. More recently, it was Bitzer's Hotel before becoming the present Village Inn of Bird-in-Hand, a beautiful bed and breakfast property. The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County states that the existing brick building "may be one of the few 19th century inns in the context of a small town in Lancaster County, which survives with a high degree of architectural integrity." It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. When referring to their bird in hand symbol, some residents say that the bird nestled in the human hand indicates friendship, comfort, and hospitality, all of which you'll discover in this perfectly delightful little village of shops, farmers markets and eateries.

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Visit a real Amish farm. Get off and see the cows and Clydesdale work horses.

20% OFF our Cookie Run Ride!

Amish Country 's Outdoor Recreation Headquarters

Leacock Coleman Center

by Clinton Martin

Love the outdoors? Then you certainly know and appreciate the name "Coleman." Here in Amish Country, when you think outdoor supplies, it's the Leacock Coleman Center. The father-son duo of Levi and Dave Esh stock hundreds of the best camping and outdoor recreation gear you'll find anywhere. But, even if you're not an avid outdoorsman, you surely enjoy firing up the grill, tailgating before the big game, or simply a relaxing summer evening out on the patio.

Leacock Coleman Center has everything for the campsite and the backyard. Since Levi and Dave also happen to be Amish, their store features an amazing selection of old-fashioned lamps. What the Plain Folk rely on for daily life, we use for the campsite, the patio or just to decorate a room in our house. Oil lamps, propane lamps, and even battery operated lamps are all here on wonderful display.

Leacock Coleman Center is easy to find. Turn south off RT 340, halfway between Bird-In-Hand and Intercourse, onto Old Leacock Road. Look off to your left only a short distance down the road. Call 717-768-7174 for more information, and remember you can shop every day except Sunday.

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Since 1969

Good 'N Plenty – Plenty Good!

by Clinton Martin

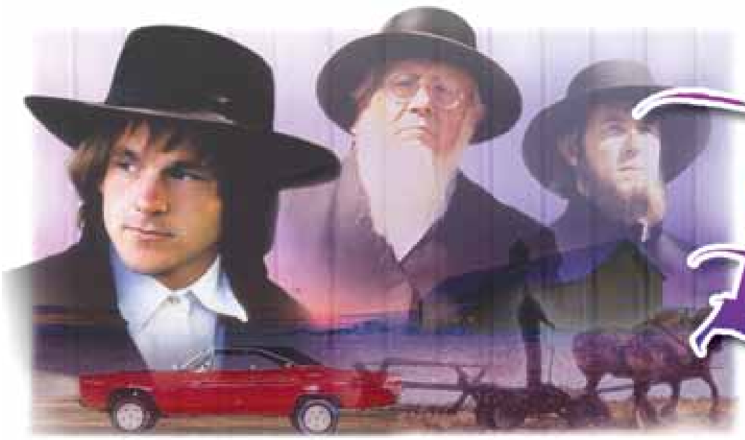
It was 42 years ago, in 1969, that Christ and "Dolly" Lapp opened the family style restaurant they named "Good 'N Plenty." Christ's brother Bob had already entered the Lapp family name into the Restaurant Hall of Fame, but as tourism grew, Christ recognized the need for more dining space. He literally turned a rustic old farmhouse into a welcoming place to serve good, all-you-can-eat, family-style meals. Nowadays that farmhouse, and the Good 'N Plenty name, are legend to visitors from all over the world as a "wonderful good" place to savor a bountiful, authentic, Pennsylvania Dutch meal.

This restaurant truly is a family business. Christ and Dolly's son and daughter, Glen and Judy, are now involved in the day-to-day operation of the restaurant, which on busy days serves up to 4,000 meals. Recently, Glen's children became involved in the family business, with son Justin acting as a Good 'N Plenty ambassador at trade shows and the like.

But, the Lapp family didn't restrict their business ventures to the world of dining. As far back as 1975, Christ and Dolly began laying a plan to bring a new, visitor-friendly, farmer's market to the area. Considering today's focus on fresh, farm-to-table foods, they were certainly ahead of their time!

They purchased a parcel of land along Route 340 in Bird-in-Hand they thought would suit well for the market. The land, once known as the Brubaker Duck Farm, had two structures when the Lapps purchased it. They began building the farmers market attached to the former duck hatchery, and opened the market doors to the public in the spring of 1976. 35 years later, you'll still find over 30 stand holders each offering their own homemade local specialties.

Whether you dine on delicious Good 'N Plenty PA Dutch platters at the restaurant, or pick up the fixings for a great home cooked meal from your own kitchen at the Bird-In-Hand Farmers Market, you really can't go wrong. And, you'll be very glad you did! Learn more about the Lapp's restaurant and farmers market at www.goodnplenty.com.



the Amish Experience at Plain & Fancy Farm

1959 52nd Anniversary 2011

Last year marked the 51st anniversary of three of Lancaster's premiere attractions, all at one location on the AAA designated Scenic Cultural Byway, Route 340, mid-way between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse.

This year marked the 52nd anniversary of Plain & Fancy Farm as the very first family-style restaurant. It remains a legendary dining experience. At the same time, Amish Country Tours (Dutchland Tours) began the first regularly scheduled tours for visitors through the scenic Amish farmlands. And 1959 also marked the opening of the Amish Country Homestead, the only Amish house tour designated a Heritage Site by Lancaster County.

Amish House Tour Unravels Riddles

Amish people wouldn't appreciate visitors walking through their homes all day…nor would you! So the best way to see the inside of a house is on a tour. At the Amish Country Homestead, the staff is committed to interpreting the changing Amish lifestyle. Rather than a museum, it has the feel of a real, "lived in" home. Guides take visitors on a fascinating 45-minute tour through the nine rooms. Discover how church is held in the home and hear the singing. See how Mom does her laundry---with a gasoline engine! Upstairs learn about Plain dress, while the kids enjoy the marble rollers.

The Fisher Amish Schoolroom is where you (or the kids) can sit at actual Amish school desks and learn how all eight grades are taught in one room. An Amish schoolteacher helped decorate the room to give it the feel of a real school. It's all included in the house tour.

Interpreting the ever-changing Amish culture respectfully and accurately is no easy task. The authenticity of the Amish Country Homestead resulted in its designation as the only Heritage Site Amish house tour in Lancaster County.

Amish Hi-Tech

In 1995, a new concept in interpreting Amish life debuted when the Amish Experience F/X Theater became only the third "experiential" theater in North America. The goal of this one-of-a-kind project was to give a more personal, intimate view of the Amish, connecting past to present. Rather than a somber documentary, the story goes inside an Amish family as their son Jacob struggles to decide whether to remain in the Amish faith.

An important missing link in most tellings of the Amish story is the persecution of the Anabaptists in Europe and the perilous journey to America. Rather than observe, visitors will now feel a part of history as special effects, including an amazing technology called "Pepper's Ghost," combine with smoke, wind, rain, and fire effects in a wrap-around barnyard setting.

A superb blending of entertainment and education, this touching and exciting production has moved some people to tears and children to exclaim "Wow!" This show, which has been called "400 years of history in 40 minutes of magic," can only be seen here in Lancaster, so be sure to make it a part of your visit. (Shows on the hour.)

Where the Amish Live & Work

Visitors who simply drive around looking at Amish farms rarely come away with much insight into the unique culture that attracts people from around the world. Amish Country Tours provide certified guides to take visitors down the backroads, deep into the farmlands and scenery that is as beautiful now as it was 50 years ago. Guides offer fascinating information on

$2 OFF Amish FX Theater and Homestead Tour Combination Ticket

or $1 OFF FX Theater Only

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www.AmishExperience.com

the Amish Experience Theater

Experience FX Theater
Open 7 Days: 10am-5pm

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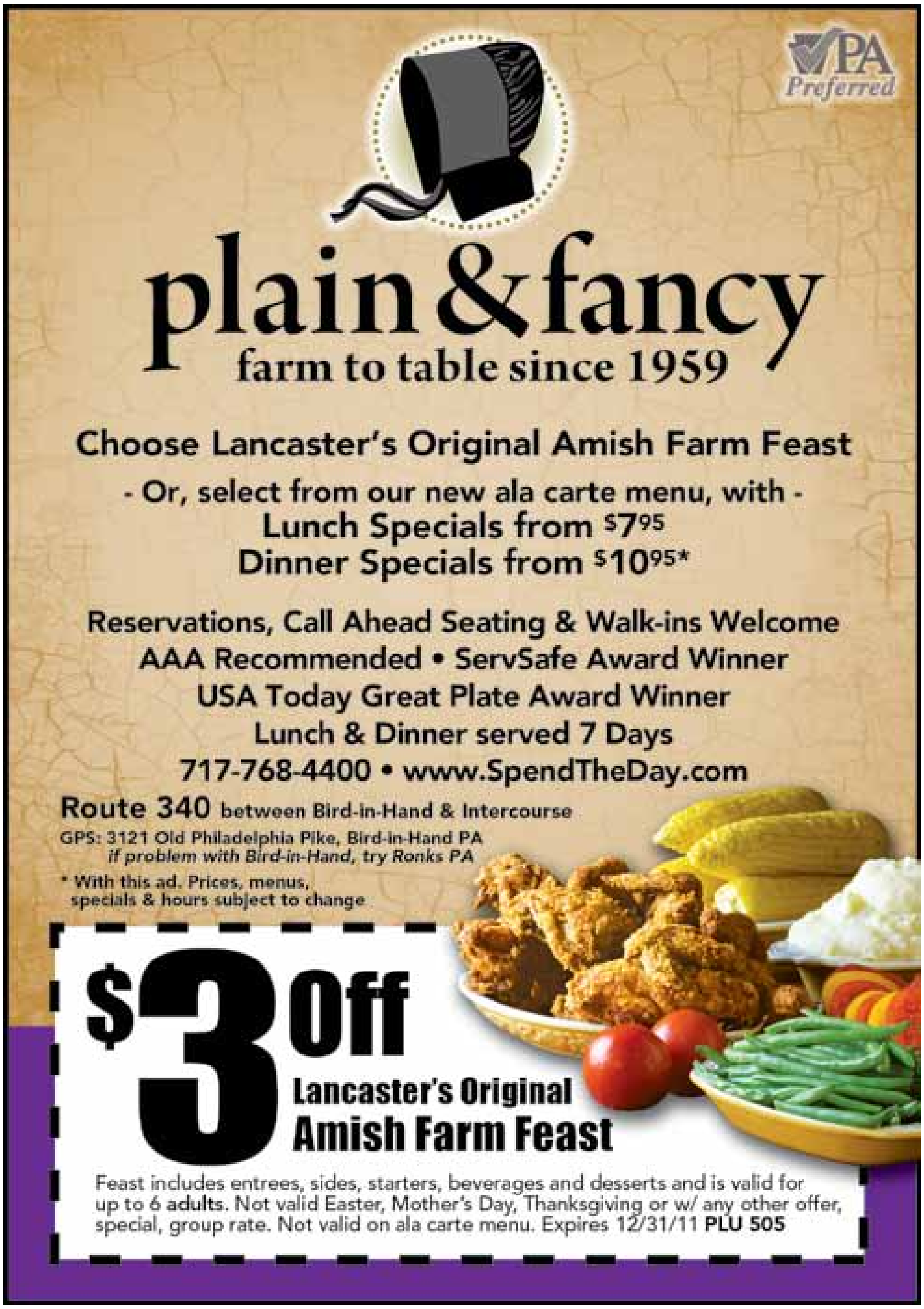
Plain & Fancy — Farm to Table Since 1959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$3 Off
Lancaster's Original
Amish Farm Feast

Feast includes entrees, sides, starters, beverages and desserts and is valid for up to 6 adults. Not valid Easter, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving or w/ any other offer, special, group rate. Not valid on ala carte menu. Expires 12/31/11 **PLU 505**

one-room schools, farming practices, "cottage industries," wedding customs, and more. Did you know there are Amish millionaires?

Amish Farmland Tours	
Monday-Saturday 10am, 12:30pm, 2:30pm	**Sunday 11am 1:30pm**

But you are not just sitting on the 14-passenger shuttle the whole time. Whenever possible, a stop is made at an actual Amish farm. Other stops may include a local bakeshop, roadside stand, or craft shop. Having a guide is recommended over tape tours, which are often outdated and can never answer questions about special activities you may see that day. Purchase tickets for this 90-minute tour online at AmishExperience.com.

A Lancaster Original

Amos, Ben, Manny and Elmer are the Amish farmers who supply the Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant with sweet corn, tomatoes, watermelon, cabbage, broccoli, squash, peppers and onions. These neighbors, and the neighbors before them, have helped Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant go "from farm to table" for over 50 years. The restaurant is AAA recommended, a PA Preferred and ServSafe award winner, and the Pennsylvania recipient of USA Today's Great Plate Award.

The Amish Farm Feast

Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant is best known for being Lancaster County's original family-style restaurant. The all-you-can-eat Amish Farm Feast includes your entrees, side dishes, starters, desserts and beverages. Enjoy fried chicken, roast beef, chicken pot pie, baked sausage, real mashed potatoes, buttered noodles, green and yellow string beans, dried sweet corn, chow chow, cole slaw, raisin bread, rolls and apple butter, lemonade, iced tea, hot tea, coffee, sour cream apple crumb pie, shoo-fly pie and vanilla ice cream. A $3 off coupon valid for each adult in the party can be found adjacent to this article.

The New "ala carte" Menu

The restaurant also offers a new ala carte menu featuring mouth watering appetizers, signature soups and salads, charbroiled burgers and sandwiches, and made-from-scratch entrees and platters. The ala carte menu is also a great value with Lunch Specials from $7.95 and Dinner Specials from $10.95.

The Country Store

Find books, videotapes, candles, souvenirs and local handcrafts, and more. Explore The Country Store's collection of traditional Amish clothing, straw hats, bonnets, toys and dolls, and discover new treasures to adorn your kitchen and home. You'll find seasonal items as well as Christmas decorations, available year-round. The store also features Kitchen Kettle jams and jellies, bakery fresh items from Miller's Bakery, and Plain & Fancy chow chow and apple butter.

AmishView Inn & Suites

While you're at Plain & Fancy Farm, you're invited to stroll up and visit AmishView Inn & Suites, a classically beautiful hotel that features elegant accommodations and incredible views. If time permits, a front desk representative can provide you with a quick tour of the hotel. The indoor pool, fitness center, arcade, whirlpools and fireplaces make AmishView perfect for an intimate getaway, family vacation, or corporate retreat. Complimentary hot country breakfast, wire-less internet, HBO, DVD players, special amenities and kitchenettes come with every room.

Where It All Began

With all of these amenities and attractions in one beautiful location surrounded by Amish farmland, the Amish Experience at Plain & Fancy is the ideal starting point to enjoy all that the area has to offer as you create your own special Lancaster County experience!

The Magic Continues at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire

Special to Amish Country News

The fall ushers in a truly magical time at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire. The dappled vistas and a renewed energy from the cooler days somehow enhance the fantasy of jousting knights and royal delights at this ever popular Central PA rite of autumn. Located on Route 72, ¼ mile south of PA Turnpike Exit 266, just 15 miles north of Lancaster, on the historic property of Mount Hope Estate & Winery, the Faire is celebrating its 32nd year transporting visitors back in time some 400 years to Merrie Olde England.

A Marvellous Village of Yore

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth I is extending her annual retreat through October 30th, and, along with 100's of colorfully costumed performers, is welcoming visitors from all accross the United States to this grand holiday in Her honor. Amidst the 35-acre village of yore, you'll come upon more than 100 Tudor structures and 11 stages, including a three-story replica of Shakespeare's Globe Theater. Along Guildsman Way are scores of talented craft artisans bantering and bartering their wares. Among Shire favorites are the glass blower, medieval herbs mistress, potter and blacksmith, all merrily joined by mongers of all sorts.

A Feast For All The Senses

Royal delights from the twenty Shire Kitchens include pick-the-meat-off-the-bone ribs, baked goods fresh off the hearth, bowls overflowing with salad greens, steak-on-a-stake, savory gyros and the ever popular giant smoked turkey legges from the Six Knights Tavern to name just a few. Thirsts are quenched with the Shire's own phosphates. Neighborhood pubs serve up artisan ales brewed on site at the Faire's Swashbuckler Brewpub. Mount Hope's award winning wines are available for purchase by the glass with free-of-charge sampling at Bacchus's Retreat!

Non-Stop Entertainment

You'll marvel at the sword swallowers, fire eaters, magicians, jugglers, tight rope walkers and dare-devil tumblers. It's hard not to sing along with the playful rogues and wenches. The display of the Royal Falconer's birds of prey in flight is truly amazing. Breathtaking best describes the Human Chess Match, a stunt-filled extravaganza replete with swords, hand-to-hand combat and fast-paced wit, played on a massive 40' x 40' chess board. Don't miss the mud pit where talented thespians create hilarious "theater in the ground", The Harlequin Stage features the aerial acrobatics, trapeze and partner balancing of Tribal Circus. Across from the Dungeon Museum, the players on the Ball 'N Chain Stage add some adult humor to a daily revels schedule filled with dozens of family friendly shows.

A Fairy Tale Comes To Life

The excitement, romance and adventure of the day builds from the morning's Queen's Court to the dramatic Ultimate Joust in the largest joust arena in North America. A tour d' force of lance, shield and equestrian skill, thousands of pounds of man, horse and steel gallop fearlessly toward each other as lances shatter and noble knights fall to the ground during this remarkably lifelike battle. Along the way, you'll meet and get to know 100's of villagers who make you part of the fun as they encourage you to become a part of this fantastical celebration. It's one finale to remember as villagers and guests gather at the Globe Theater at the end of day to join in the rollicking Finale in Song.

Lots Of Reasons To Return

Added revels highlight specially themed weekends through October. The three-day Labor Day Holiday is a special Children's Fantasy Weekend. Other weekend fests include a Scottish Highland Gathering, Oktoberfest, Wine Harvest and three weekends of Halloween Days and Spooky Knights to conclude the season.

Learn the Faire details and pre-purchase discount advance tickets through the Faire's website at www.parenfaire.com. Special boons are in store for those who receive up-to-date information as fans of the Faire's Facebook page.

Adult admission at the gate is $29.95 and child admission, ages 5 to 11, is $10.95 and includes all entertainments on the daily Revels Schedule. Games, rides, foods, beverages and crafts are an additional fee. Parking is free.

Set the table! Company is coming!

When Old Is New
Aged Character from Country Thyme Primitives

by Clinton Martin

The distressed look that furniture takes on when it has been used, and loved, for generations is something that we have only recently came to fully appreciate. In fact, it's now popular to furnish one's home with pieces of brand new furniture that appear to have withstood the passage from grandfather to son to grandson.

Thankfully, there is a workshop like Country Thyme Primitives, where exceptional craftsmanship assures each piece really will stand the test of time, while exhibiting the rich, weathered feel of a country primitive. The furniture is crafted to exact specifications (whether in stock, or to your wishes on your special order) and then hand-finished and rubbed with a detailed distressing process creating a true one-of-a-kind.

Just shopping for this fine furniture is its own reward as showroom and workshop are both housed in a barn on the Amish farm of the Elmer Riehl family on Route 772 just north of the village of Intercourse. Turning off Newport Road (look for the sign) and heading down the lane, smell the intriguing bouquet of freshly cut wood in the country breeze. Park your car in front of the showroom entrance, and follow the sounds of men working in the shop, sanding, sawing and finishing. You'll be glad you've made this short journey and may well end up with a new/old hand-crafted piece of furniture as useful as it is beautiful. For store hours call, (717) 656-2123.

Four Generations with Food in Mind!

by Clinton Martin

We love a good tale about food here at Amish Country News, and recently we found one of the best sitting almost right on the border of Lancaster and Chester Counties, where, down little old Mill Road, you'll find September Farm Cheese.

September Farm Cheese is owned and operated by the David and Roberta Rotelle family. David represents the fourth generation of his family associated with foods and farming, dating back to his great-grandfather who immigrated from Italy in the late 1800s, a common thread among the forefathers of so many families living today in America.

The first generation Rotelle family opened a small grocery store in Ambler, PA in the early 1900's. The second generation, David's grandfather, sold fruits and vegetables door to door, which was actually quite common before the mega grocery chain stores of today. David's grandfather went into business with his brother, eventually building an enterprise called Rotelle Incorporated, a wholesale food distribution company that grew to seven huge garages of warehouse space.

David's father, August, continued in those footsteps, leading Rotelle Incorporated through continued years of growth. The business moved to Springhouse, PA, and then later to West Point, PA, where their operations spread out over one hundred acres and included the largest, independently owned freezer in the United States. In the mid 1990s, the business was sold to a large food distributor in Richmond, VA.

By now, you must be wondering, "So where does Amish Country fit into all of this?" The answer is with David and Roberta, who got back to basics, so to speak. They moved their family to the heart of Amish Country, bought a farm, and began to manage a herd of dairy cows.

The dairy farming, and subsequent cheese-making now extend the Rotelle family name to the food industry to the fourth generation. Although food service came naturally to the Rotelle's, they did need to learn farming and cheese making inside and out. Roberta holds a food service management degree from the University of New Hampshire, and both David and Roberta are certified cheese makers from the University of Wisconsin.

So, with four generations of Rotelle's having made, and now making, livelihoods in food, you can be sure that the tasting of the fruits of their labors is a delicious task. The Rotelle's invite you to step into this very story at September Farm Cheese. You will sample cheese, watch it being made, and of course shop for their medal-winning scrumptious, creamy cheese products, and fun cheese gifts in their delightful shop. Call 610-273-3552 for directions to the farm, or look them up online at www.septemberfarmcheese.com.

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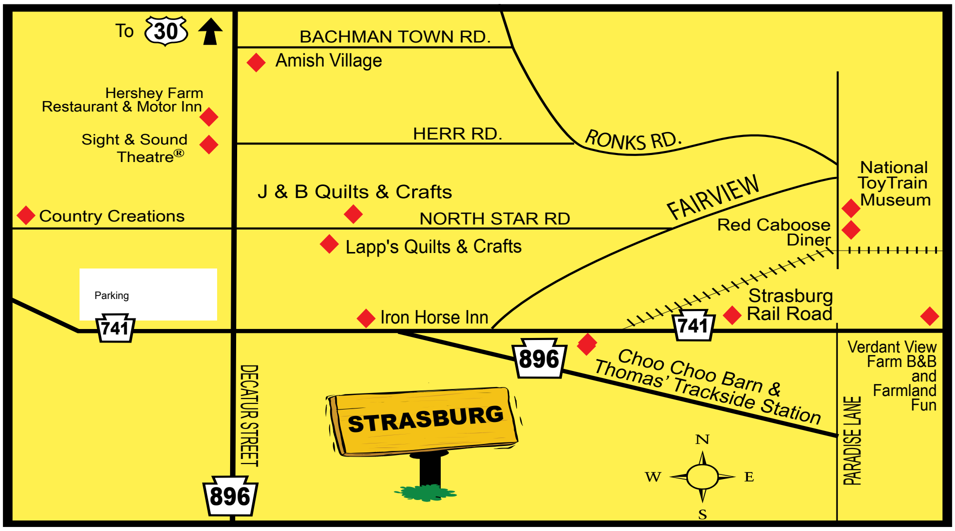
Strasburg - A Town of Trains & Heritage



All aboard! Strasburg is a major destination all its own in PA Dutch Country, and home to many well known attractions. To name just a few --- the Strasburg Rail Road, Sight & Sound Theatres, Ghost Tours of Lancaster, Cherry Crest Adventure Farm, National Toy Train Museum, and the Choo Choo Barn. But you may not know much about the interesting history of this town...

Strasburg, named for the city in France, was actually "founded" by a Frenchman, Pierre Bezaillion, who traded with the Delaware Indians. The story goes he came to the area in 1693, as French fur traders opened up the first path through this area from Philadelphia to the Susquehanna River.

As early as 1716, when the first wagon was used for hauling goods, the path became known as the Conestoga Road, and the wagons that traveled them eventually became known as Conestoga Wagons. Main Street Strasburg was developed during the next half century as traffic on this road increased considerably and the first log houses appeared in the village about 1733.

Strasburg continued to flourish in the 18th century primarily because of its location along the major wagon routes between Philadelphia, Lancaster, and the Susquehanna River. It was one of the principal stopping stations and, with the heavy wagon traffic, there were as many as eight or ten taverns here. Most of the older houses along Main Street were at one point private schools and academies and with many of the structures still intact, the Strasburg Borough Council, in order to maintain the charm and historical significance of the Village, enacted an ordinance in 1970 that created a Historic District approximately two miles long and containing 193 buildings.

As Strasburg flourished, so did its neighbor to the east, Philadelphia. The commercial interests of Philadelphia pressured the State Legislature to improve the transportation network into their

(Continued on Page 43)

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Verdant View Farm

Stay, Play....Be an Apprentice For a Day!

by Clinton Martin

There are not many working farms that welcome you, and your kids, to milk cows, gather eggs in the chicken coop, plant crops, and sleep in the farmhouse. But that's just what you do at Verdant View Farm as proprietors Don and Ginny Ranck warmly welcome you to their home, farm and breakfast table for the "real feel" of farm life, up close and personal!

There's an odd twist as to how Verdant View has become such a little-known, but coveted must-visit for travelers to Dutch Country. Don's parents started simply, with a modest bed and breakfast establishment, over 30 years ago on the farm. But this happened only after they actually saw people sleeping in their cars along the lane!

After meeting hundreds of visitors over the years, Don and Ginny came to understand that so many had a natural curiosity for what farm life was like. Don began the "Farmland Fun Wagon" to tour the farm, and eventually created "The Apprentice Experience" – doing the things a farmer does, even for just an hour or two! Today, you can enjoy full "Tour and Taste" experiences at Verdant View that include both a wagon ride and a walking tour, and five different stops where you'll taste local farm products…how about honey from beehives just down the road!

Ginny shared with me the story of a grandfather and grandson who bonded by learning together on their farm. Another guest wrote: "We had a great time on your farm. We're thinking of making this an annual event, as (our son) Luke will be able to learn and understand more each year - and we really want him to develop an appreciation for farming and understand where food REALLY comes from!" And speaking of food, Ginny has compiled her favorite recipes into a cookbook you'll want for your home, recipes she serves on the farm and you're likely to taste while visiting.

Don & Ginny pose for a "corny" photo.

This is one family-owned business that may not be producing high-tech gadgets in Silicon Valley, but for me, here's an innovation that allows us to have fun, learn new things that really are old, all out in the open air... with a farmer. There just isn't an app for that!

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Gourds drying on the fence of a family-owned business - farmer Eli Smucker

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(STRASBURG Continued from Page 40)

city. As a result, a series of canals along with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Roads were constructed. Strasburg residents became alarmed at the possibility of losing their commercial position and there soon emerged a charter for the Strasburg Rail Road to construct a rail line connecting Strasburg with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Road main line near Paradise. Finally in the 1850's, trains were hauling freight and passengers.

About 100 years later, business had dwindled, and a severe storm in 1957 destroyed much of the track. It seemed the Rail Road had

(Continued on Page 57)

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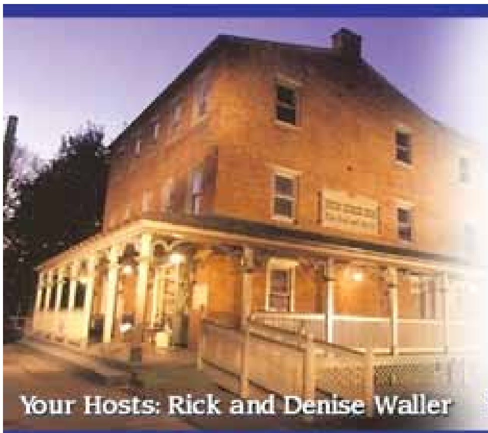

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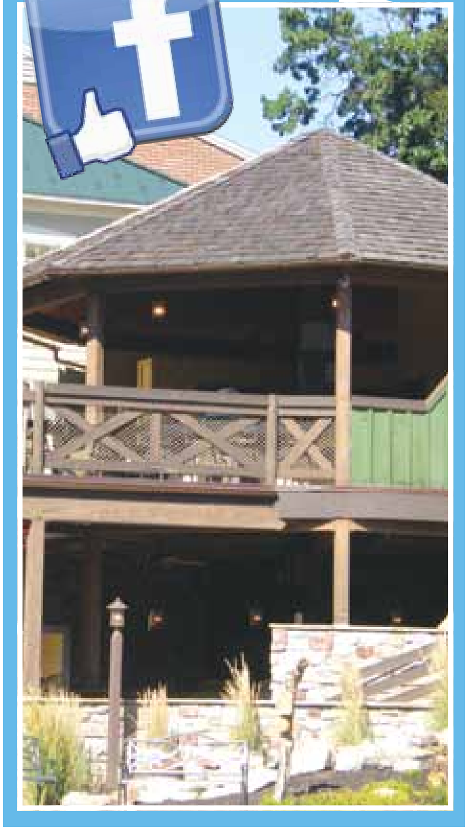
WHERE IS AMISH COUNTRY NEWS?

Can you guess which Amish Country News preferred restaurant is pictured here??

Give us your best shot on ***facebook.com/AmishExperience***

Correct responses are eligible to win gift certificates to some of our favorite haunts. Be sure to pick up the October issue of Amish Country News, where we will reveal many of the secrets to dining in Amish Country. Will your favorite eatery be included?



Amish Made...The Path to an Unusual Discovery

by Clinton Martin

The Amish VIP (Visit-In-Person) Tour offered by the Amish Experience at Plain and Fancy Farm has resulted in the delightful discovery of dozens of small, boutique Amish artisans. With this our family-owned business issue, we decided to feature one of the budding Amish entrepreneurs, and how the VIP tour brings her story to life.

Sylvia of Garden Path Soap, while working from her kitchen, is a small-batch maker of unusual soaps and accessories. While her business has grown, it is still the epitome of the small, family-owned enterprise. The manufacturing floor is her kitchen's linoleum, and the storefront the wooden planks of her front porch. Don't count on meeting Sylvia, however, as most of her business is based on the honor system. Drive down the lane, walk to the front porch and you'll see, and definitely smell, the soaps on display. Pick up a bar or two to take along with you and drop your money in the basket there which serves as the self-service isle for the quickest checkout you'll find anywhere.

Of course, the fun in visiting a place like Sylvia's is in getting to meet her, watch her at work and discover the magic of her soaps. So, if there's little likelihood that this is possible if you visit on your own (assuming you can find her), how then does this hidden "Path" come to life for you.

As far as we know, the best way to make all this happen is onboard the small, 14-passenger shuttle of the Amish Visit-In-Person Tour, where you'll actually meet Sylvia, talk with her as you stand around the kitchen table, watching her deftly navigate the surprisingly complex matter of soap making. You'll learn that Sylvia describes her line of creations as all-natural lye soaps, basically the soap folks made at home long before there was the floating variety in stores. She actually got into making soap as an after-thought. as her first love, gardening, lead the way. And a logical progression it was, as the fondness she had for growing herbs and spices led to the basic ingredients she required for her aromatic soap making.

It took a while for her to develop the skills necessary to create the soaps she would be proud to call her own, and then to produce them in quantities for her "storeroom's" shelves. You'll soon see that she is now quite accomplished and chances are you'll want a little bit of soap as a memento of your trip. Just don't expect her to ever stop gardening!

Glycerin soaps come in all shapes and sizes.

Sylvia is only one of many Amish merchants that are part of the VIP Tours. Every Mon.-Fri. evening at 5:00pm tours depart from the Amish Experience Theater on RT 340 between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse, and for the next three hours or so three Amish stops are on the agenda, ending with a "visit" in an Amish home where guests and family sit around the living room for an interchange that is rarely possible in any other environment. Tickets for the Amish VIP Tour can be purchased by phone, 717-768-8400 ext. 210, or online at www.amishexperience.com.

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Family Play Time at Cherry Crest Adventure Farm

by Clinton Martin

When Jack and Donna Coleman decided to sell their grain farm in New Jersey, and move out to a 300+ acre dairy farm in Strasburg, they probably thought their passion for agriculture would have them milking cows twice a day for the rest of their life. But, they soon came to realize that while Lancaster County was a highly productive place to till the soil and ply the trade of a farmer, there were thousands and thousands of visitors coming from all over the world for a true taste of Amish Country life. This realization presented a unique opportunity for them to share their farm with the world, and we're thankful for that!

The Colemans decided to open their farm to families as a place to play, explore, and discover the agricultural side of the Amish Country. Cherry Crest Farm became Cherry Crest ADVENTURE Farm. True to its name, the farm is truly full of excitement and entertainment.

The Coleman family still farms some of the acreage, with beef and chicken the main concerns. But, the over 50 farm-fun activities have become the real attraction. Creative ways to have fun are especially suited to children from toddlers to teens. Two corn mazes, obstacle courses, slides, and even a big "jumping pillow," all have family members smiling from ear to ear (no pun on the corn intended).

The wholesome family atmosphere is punctuated by the friendliness of the staff. You don't need to take my word for it; the level of excellent customer service is noted in nearly all the reviews you'll find on any of the internet review sites. From the time you arrive, until you depart for your next Amish Country activity, this is hospitality you'd hope to find on your next vacation.

2011 Corn Maze Theme: Once Upon a Time

Oh, and if you get lost in the corn maze, they will help you…out! Call 866-546-1799 or cherrycrestfarm.com for additional info.

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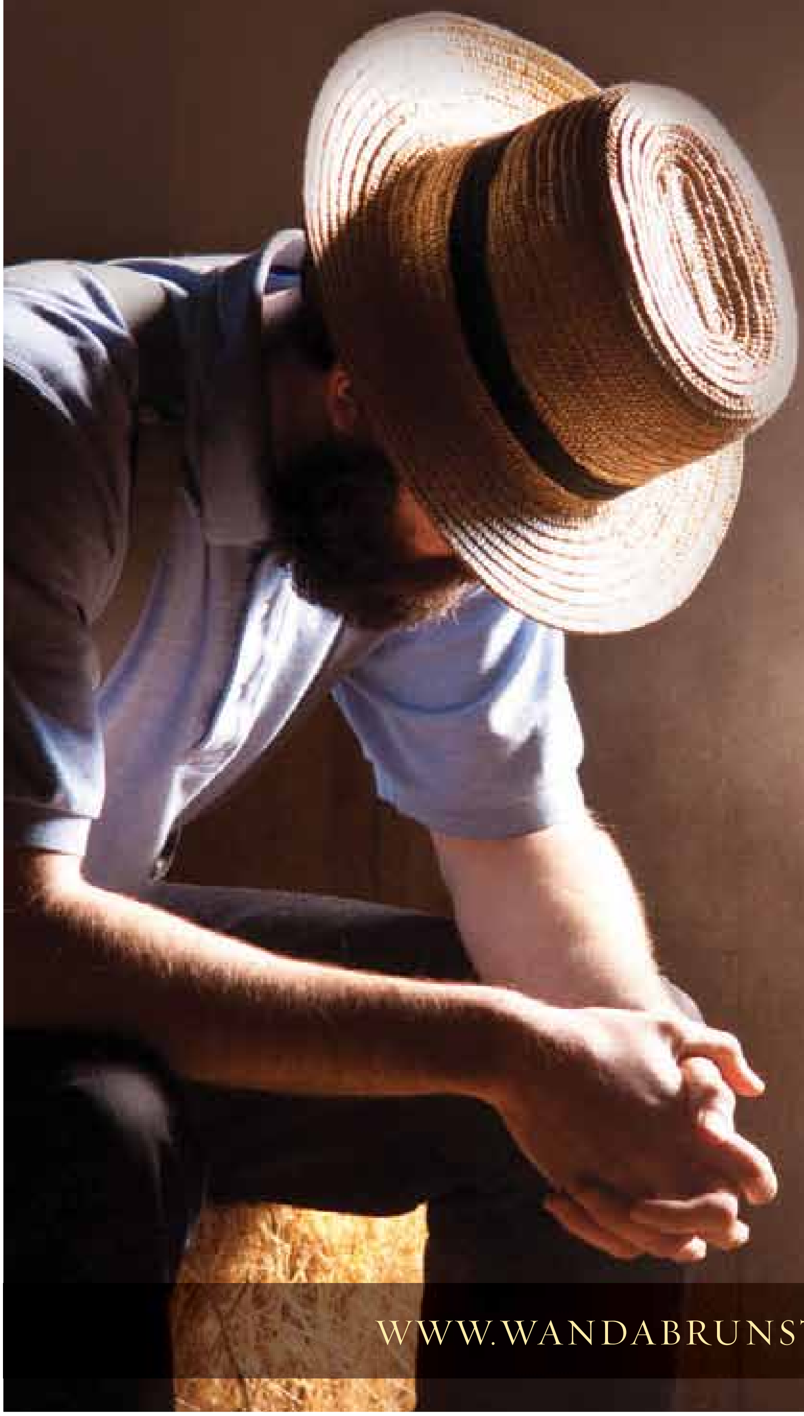

AN AMISH WIDOWER
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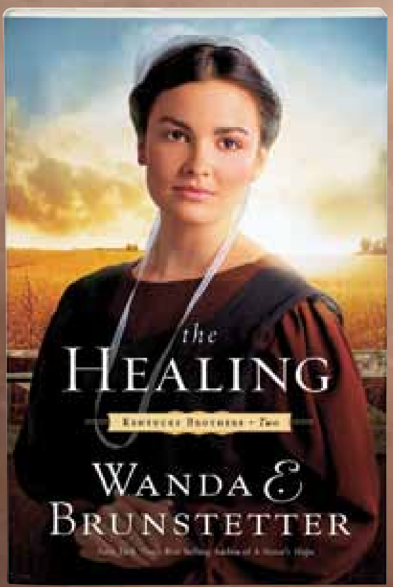
Will they find a future together in the land of tomorrow?



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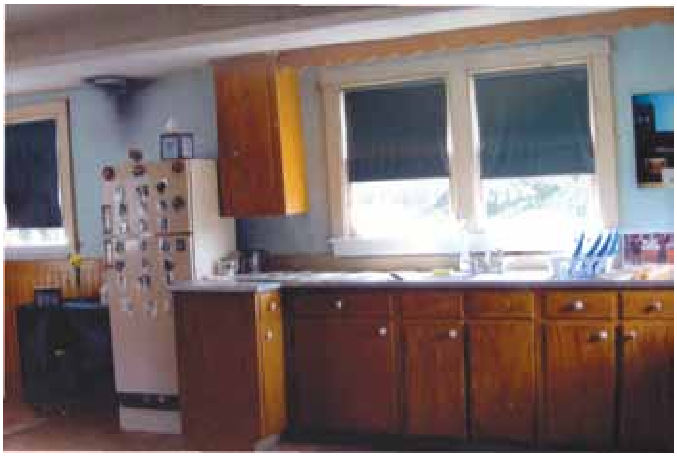

by Brad Igou

The opening funeral.
The breakfast scene,
Harrison Ford saying,
"My, that's good coffee!"
The marble roller.
The gun discussion with
little Samuel.
The midnight "bath."
The farewell.

Many of the most cherished scenes of the 1985 Paramount movie WITNESS took place in the intimate "summer kitchen," a small building adjacent to the Amish family's farmhouse where Harrison Ford took refuge after his detective character John Book crashed, quite literally, into the lives our Amish neighbors.

The summer kitchen had been closed to the public when Amish Country Tours began tours of the "Witness Farm" last year. However, beginning the middle of this August, by special arrangement with the Amish family who owns the farm site, guests are again able to walk inside and explore this famous Hollywood set as part of the Witness Tour.

The fact that the summer kitchen was actually a storage area on the farm has helped to preserve the original painting and set design that was done for the film over 20 years ago, including the soot on the wall above the stove. Amazingly, the original cabinets are intact, with their noteworthy finish, traditional to the Pennsylvania Dutch, designed to give the look of wood-graining.

One of the amusing stories is that the walls, not really dirty, but rather painted by the movie's "set dressers" to look aged, caused the matriarch of the present Amish family who bought the property to wonder why, after repeated scrubbings, she was unable to get them clean!

Witness devotees will notice the peaches and marble roller on the kitchen table, and the spectacular views from the windows, the beautiful grape arbor and the bell, which still rings. The rare, behind-the-scenes photos on display showing actual work done for the filming are an added bonus.

There are other movie sets easily accessed by the public, but the WITNESS movie location is available only to the 14 guests on board the small shuttle for this exclusive Wednesday and Saturday evening tour. Bring your camera and capture the spot where romance blossomed between Harrison Ford and Kelly McGillis, as you become a part of movie history.

Tours leave from the Amish Experience Theater at Plain and Fancy Farm, Route 340 between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. For additional information visit AmishExperience.com or call 717-768-8400, ext. 210.

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South to North Star Road East. First farm on right after school house. Watch for sign Lapp's Quilts & Crafts.
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Lancaster Dining Guide

American

Red Caboose Diner	BLD, $, MCC
Eden Resort	B,L,D $$ MCC
Fulton Steamboat Inn	L,D $ to $$ MCC
Iron Horse Inn	L,D $$ MCC
Loxley's Restaurant	B,L,D - $$$ - MCC
Revere Tavern	L,D $$$ MCC
Sugarplums & Tea	B,L - $ - V,M,D

Sweets and Treats

Mr. Sticky's Homemade Stickies	B,L,D - $ - MCC

Pennsylvania Dutch / Local Traditional

Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant	B,L,D $ to $$ MV
Family Cupboard	B,L,D $ to $$ MVA
Good N' Plenty	L,D $$ MV
Hershey Farm	B,L,D $$ MCC
Intercourse Village Restaurant	B, L, D, $
Jakey's Amish Barbeque	L,D $ to SS MCC
Plain & Fancy Farm	L,D $$ MCC
Yoder's Restaurant	B,L,D $$ MCC

Smorgasbord / Buffet

Miller's Smorgasbord	B,L,D,SB,R $$ to $$$ MCC

Wineries / Breweries

Lancaster Brewing Company	LD, $$, MCC
Mount Hope Estate & Winery	
Union Barrel Works	L,D $$ MCC

The Dining Key

The following abbreviations and symbols indicate meals served, average entrée cost, and credit cards accepted…

Meals

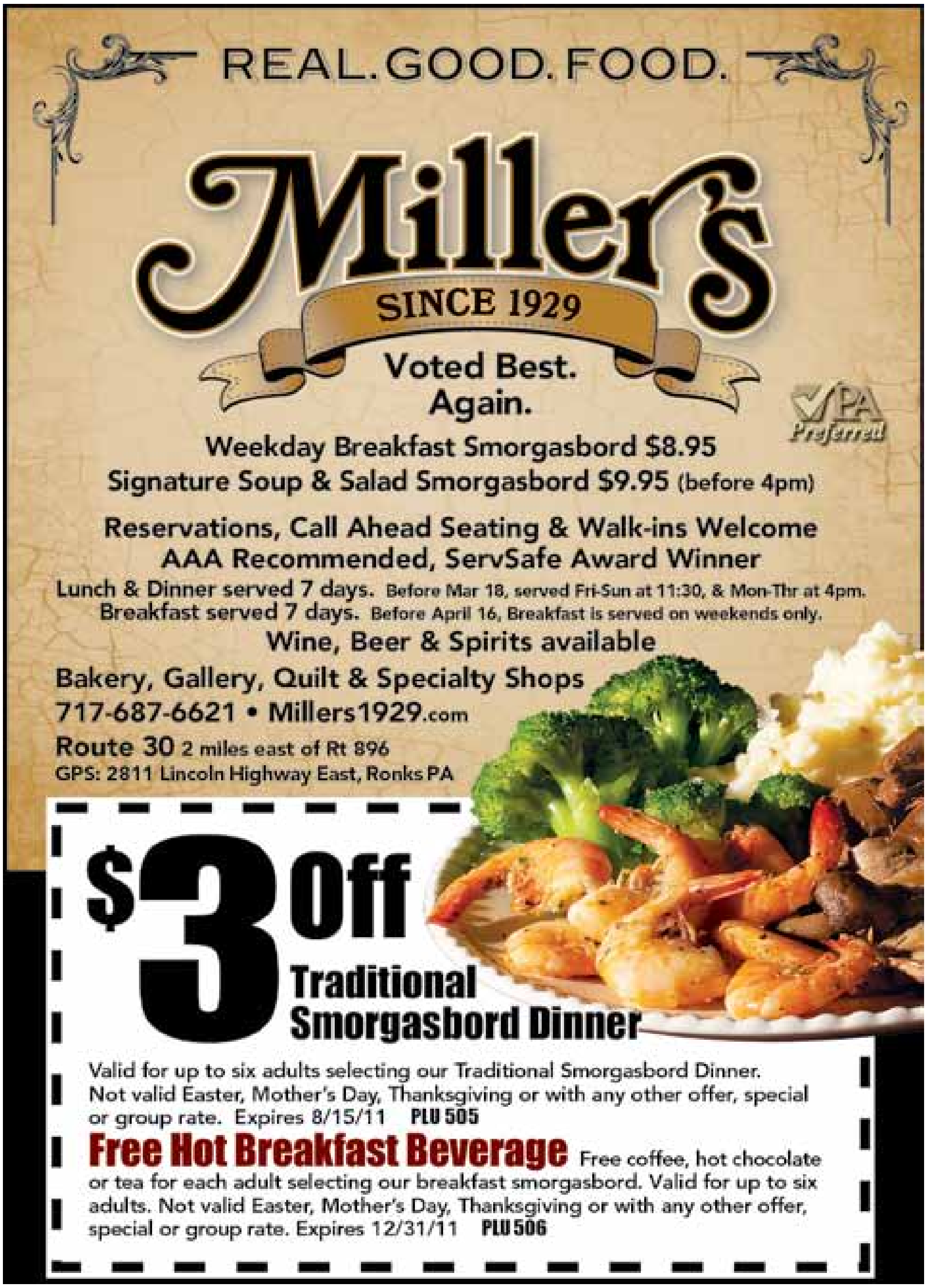
B	Breakfast
L	Lunch
D	Dinner
SB	Sunday Brunch
LN	Late Night
R	Reservations suggested

Dinner Entrees

$	Under $10
$$	$11-$20
$$$	$21-30
$$$$$	over $30

Credit Cards

A	American Express
D	Discover
M	MasterCard
V	VISA
MCC	Major Credit Cards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Free Hot Breakfast Beverage Free coffee, hot chocolate or tea for each adult selecting our breakfast smorgasbord. Valid for up to six adults. Not valid Easter, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving or with any other offer, special or group rate. Expires 12/31/11 PLU 506

AROUND THE CORNER

Here's what's coming up in the October issue of Amish Country News:

DUTCH COUNTRY'S BEST DINING, BREW PUBS and WINE SHOPS

Don't miss our Annual Dining Guide, a take-home you'll want to keep and refer to as you plan your next trip from home, wherever that might be.

THIS SPECIAL ISSUE INCLUDES:

- Search for the perfect Whoopie Pie
- Recipes from local chefs
- Interviews with restaurateurs
- Wine, beer and food pairings
- Local Pub Crawl Map
- Local Wine Growers Speak

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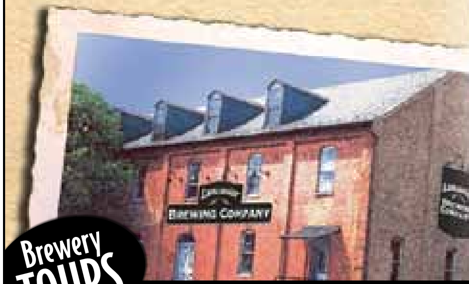
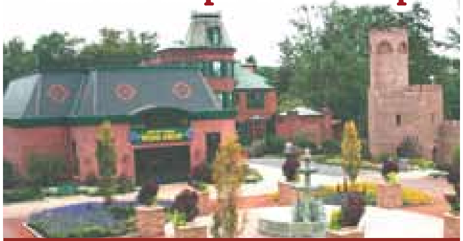


Brewery TOURS

Tours available upon request Monday thru Friday from 1 pm to 3pm - Saturday and Sunday at 3pm

Celebrate Fine Wine

Mount Hope Wine Shop



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One glass per tasting customer. Offer valid only for those 21 years of age or older and while supplies last. Offer Expires 12/31/11.

A cookbook with Amish recipes is a memento on Amish Country Tours Shuttle Excursions!

See ad on page 4 for more details!

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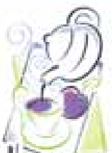

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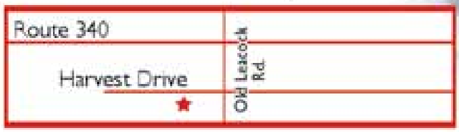
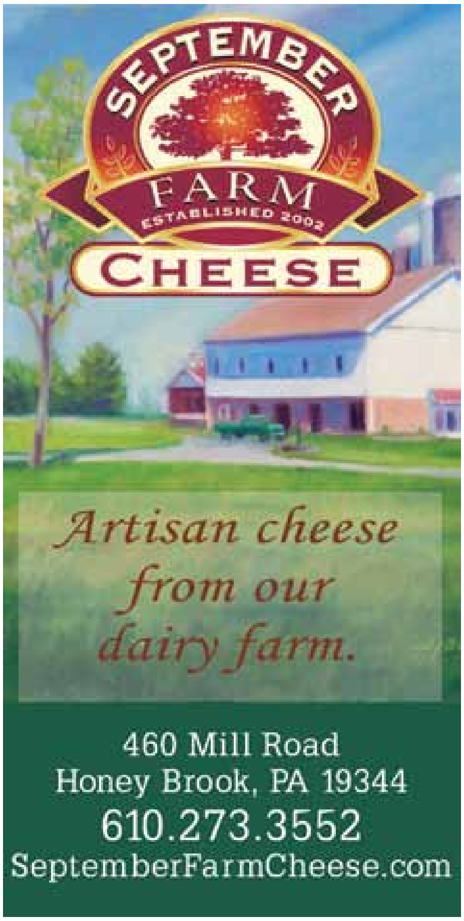


Phone Orders **717.768.0239**



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Antiquing in Amish Country

by Clinton Martin

Do you enjoy searching for antiques? Perhaps you are on the hunt for that special something, or you just enjoy looking for a surprise to bring back home, and find a spot for "somewhere." Maybe you hope to find an item worthy of an "Antique Roadshow."

What makes Amish Country such a great place for "antiquing?" One obvious answer would be that we possess a rich history going back hundreds of years to the first new-world settlers in the early 1700's. Who knows what may be out there?

But just being an area rich in heritage doesn't make you an antique "Mecca." Here, however, we literally boast thousands of antique shops and dealers. The Adamstown area alone has over 3,000 antique dealers, large and small, and is known near and far as Antiques Capital, U.S.A. You'll find many stretching out along Route 272, north of Ephrata, along the entrance to PA Turnpike Exit 286.

You'll find it all from sheet music to music boxes, pocket watches to kitchen sinks, nostalgic clothes to ancient wardrobes to hang them in. Glassware, crafts, toys, artwork, china, quilts and fabrics, memorabilia…. the list is virtually endless. Happy hunting!

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A High-Tech Telling of a A Very High-Touch Story

by Brad Igou

When the lights dim inside the Amish Experience Theater and the telling of "Jacob's Choice" begins, you'd think you were in a theme park in Orlando or Hollywood. Surrounded by five screens and the latest in quadraphonic sound, seated on benches modeled after those of an Amish church service (with backs added for creature comfort), you watch unfold the story of an Amish teenager undecided whether to join the Amish church.

While Amish children are, of course, raised in the Amish tradition from birth, most people do not realize that joining the Amish faith is a personal choice. Choosing to join the church means a lifestyle with no electricity, TV, or computer at home, speaking the Pennsylvania German dialect, wearing Plain clothes, riding in a horse-drawn carriage, and attending a one room school. But you aren't truly Amish until you make the choice, as an adult, to be baptized. Yet during the running around or "rumspringa" time of their teenage years, Amish youth probably learn more about our way of life than we know about theirs. Incredibly, approximately 90% decide to become and live as Amish for the rest of their lives. Thus, the Amish population here doubles about every 20 years, and there are more Amish now than at any time in history. "Jacob's Choice" is a remarkable window into the lives of these young people and offers some ideas as to why Amish youth choose family, the church and community, notwithstanding the temptations of our modern world.

Not surprisingly, to tell this story to an audience of today, the theater utilizes today's technology. Through the artful use of special effects including, fog, three dimensional ghosting, wind, rain, lighting and mechanical "tricks," you're drawn into a family's heart wrenching predicament of a child choosing between family and community or the "modern world." As Jacob comes to choose, you witness, in a very personal way, the legacy of the Amish faith from its beginnings in flight from persecution in Europe through the challenges of remaining "different" in their new homeland.

For me, there's no better introduction to the Amish as people than "Jacob's Choice" at the Amish Experience Theater at Plain and Fancy Farm, Route 340 between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. Shows are on the hour, seven days a week. Call 717.768.8400 for details.

Spring is in the air, and great things will be showing up at...

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See you soon!

Great Atmosphere, Better Food, Excellent Beer!

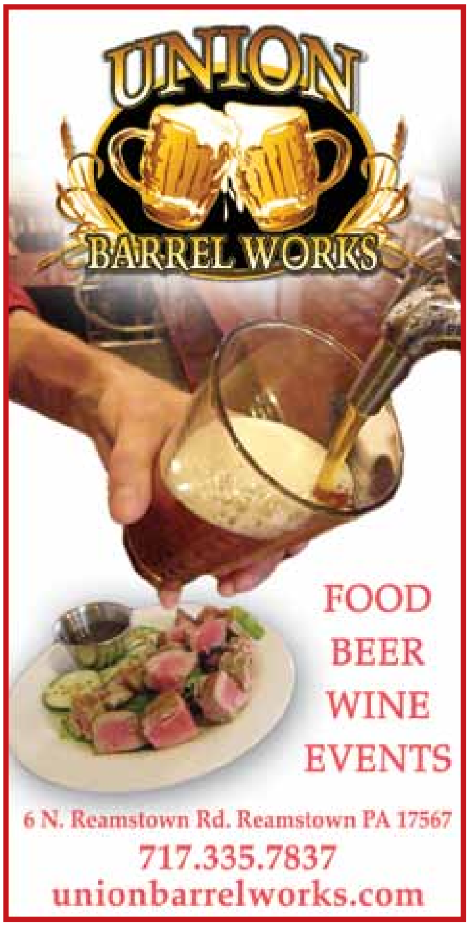
by Clinton Martin

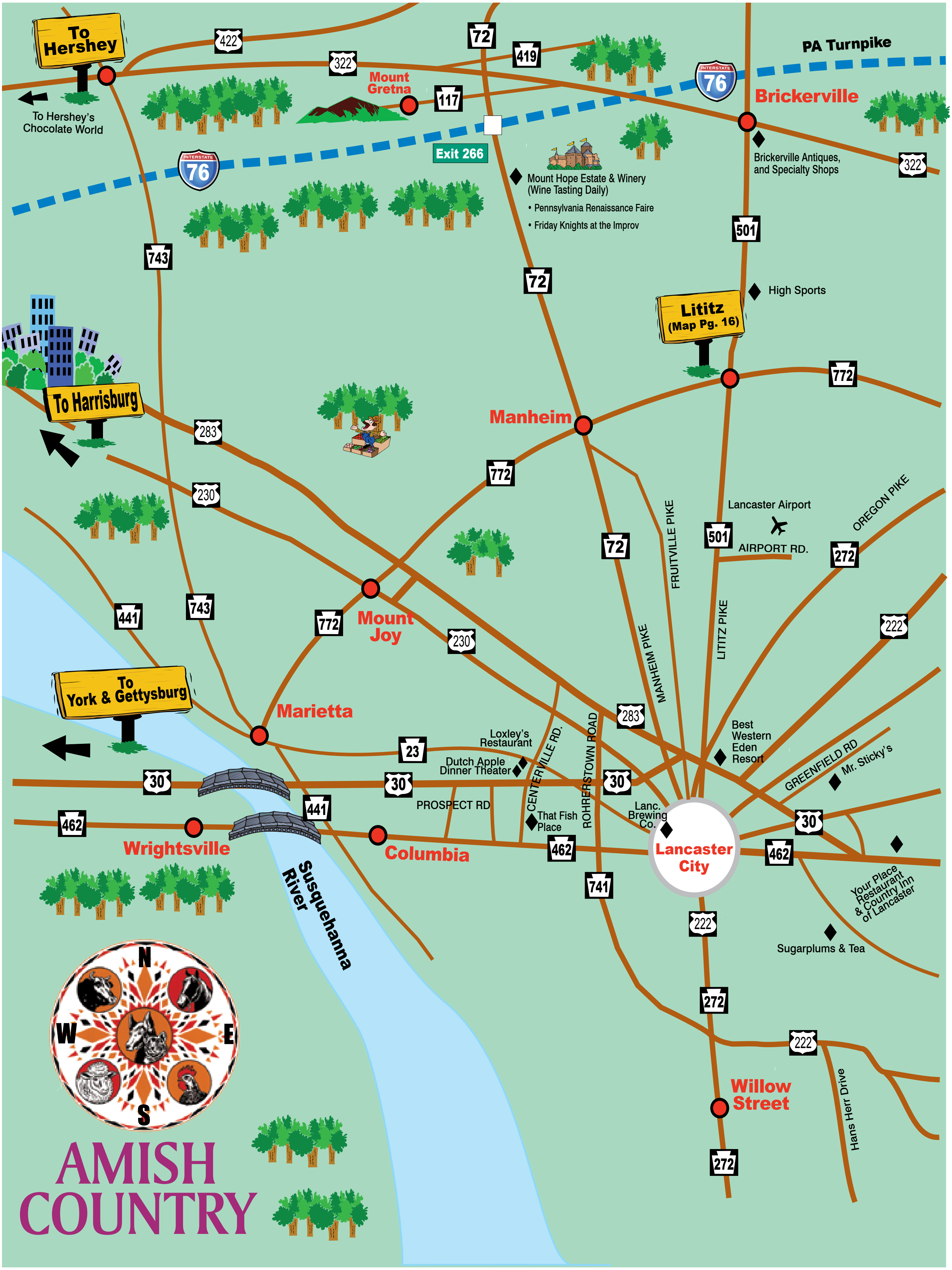
Just north of Ephrata, an up-and-coming force in the Lancaster County dining scene is quietly making a stir. Union Barrel Works has been pumping a special energy into the peaceful little village of Reamstown. It all started when the Rupp family left one of the "old guard" breweries in Lancaster County and decided to start their own brewpub.

Their idea, like many others, was to craft excellent small-batch micro-beers, but a keen sense of There Must Be Good Food made their endeavors unique. All around the county new breweries are pouring hops in a kettle, hoping to press out a niche in the ever-expanding craft beer market, but UBW made sure to have a renowned chef alongside the classically trained brewmaster.

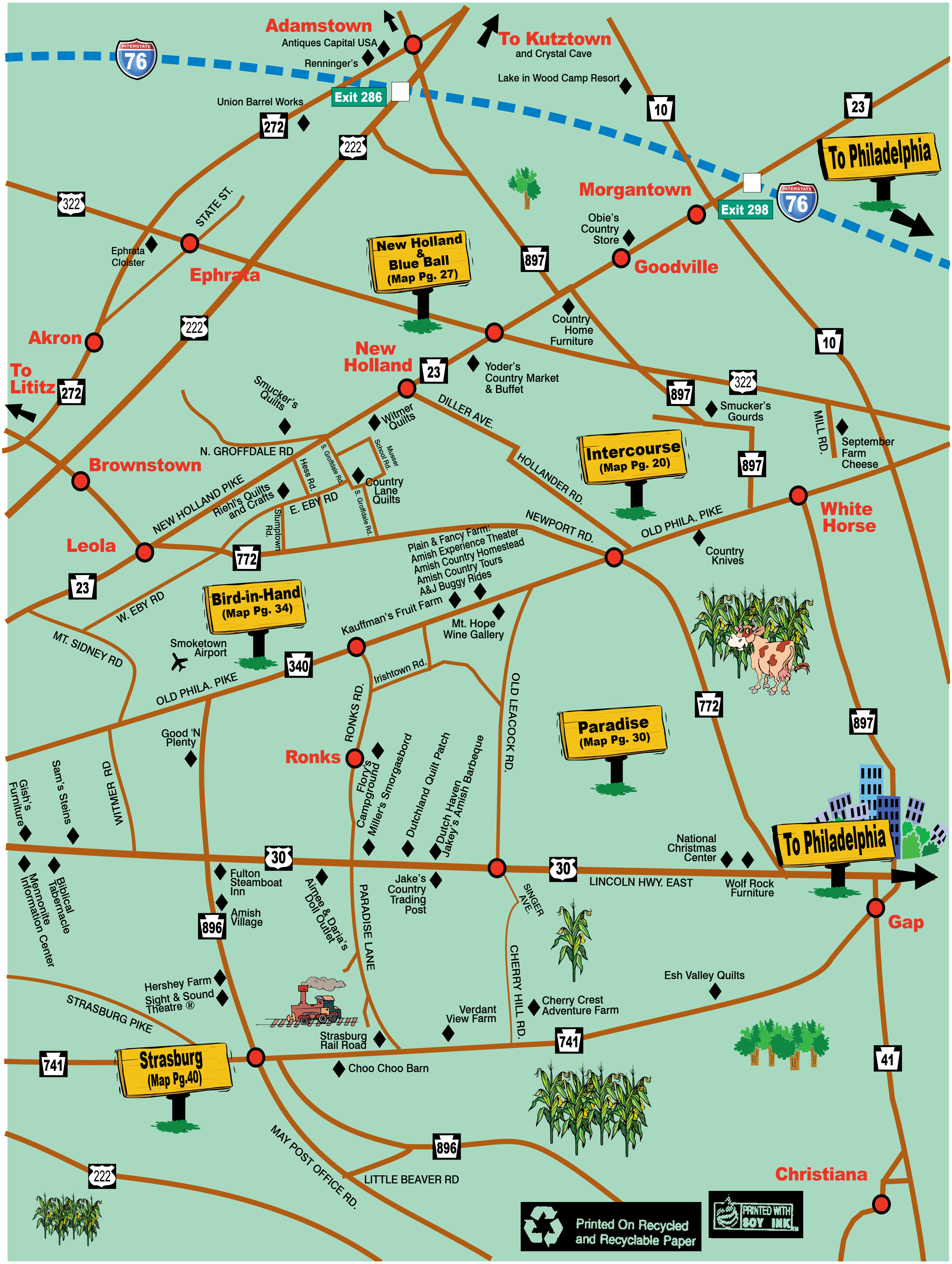
Next was the search for the perfect location. Eventually, an historic old brick façade at 6 N. Reamstown Road was uncovered. Not surprisingly, the place needed a lot of work, but the hundreds of hours of "sweat equity" resulted in just the right atmosphere to enjoy a superb meal experience while sampling some truly special brews. The original tin ceiling is a throw-back to Victorian America, and the bar itself dates back to the 1800s. Imagine the stories it could tell! Sturdy hardwood floors remind guests that this building was made for work, and built to last.

Your memories will surely last for a very long time as well after you've visited, tasted, sipped, sighed, and smiled at the offerings of Union Barrel Work's friendly kitchen and approachable beer. Whether you favor traditional pub grub such as wings and burgers, or you find yourself in an adventurous spirit and go for the Texas Caviar (no fish, think avocado & black bean salsa!), the menu is your oyster shell filled with pearls (although you're more likely to see mussels on the menu). Bite into something amazing, raise a glass of beer next to the tanks where it all started, and, if you're like the gang here at Amish Country News, you'll be planning your next visit before the second glass of the "Hefeweizen" Beer is served!





AMISH COUNTRY



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"A Time for Peace"...A Review

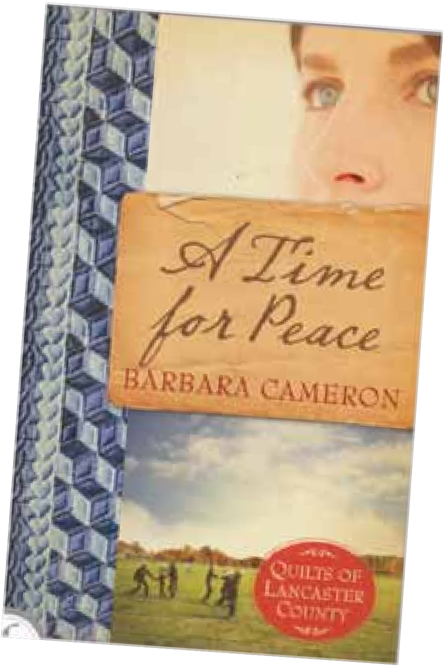
Editor's Note: The world of Amish fiction grows larger each day. We asked one of Amish Country's senior tour guides at the Amish Experience to read and review a current popular title, "A Time For Peace."

by Bernice White
Certified Amish Country Tour Guide
with the Amish Experience
at Plain and Fancy Farm

"A Time for Peace" is the third book in the "Quilts of Lancaster County" series written by Barbara Cameron. Jenny is now married to her first love Matthew Bontrager. After being seriously injured in a bombing incident while overseas working as a reporter writing about the children affected by war, she came back to Paradise to heal. Matthew's wife had died of cancer leaving him with three small children. Although Jenny loves children and has accepted them as her own, she longs to have a child of her own. When her friend Hannah becomes pregnant, jealousy creeps into her soul and she finds some of the Amish ways of thinking hard to accept, especially "If It's God's Will".

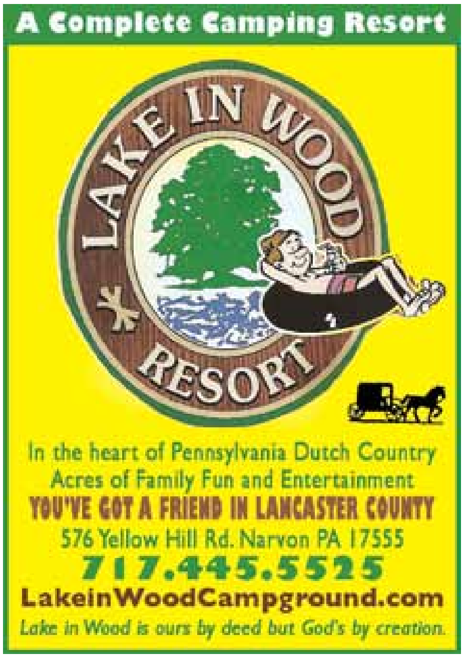
Ms. Cameron conveys to us just how difficult it can be for someone who has been raised in the English World [English represents the outside world] to accept the Amish thinking, especially "If It's God's Will." The Amish use this term frequently, particularly in situations such as Jenny's difficulty conceiving a child.

We walk with Jenny as she works through bouts of jealousy when her friend Hannah becomes pregnant. It is easy to relate to her feelings of betrayal when she discovers that her Grandmother, whom she loved, had written to her father and told him to come and take Jenny home because she was falling in love with Matthew, the boy next door. As Jenny laments about what might have been, her disappointment grows when she finds out that Matthew had rejected her because her father would not give permission for him to court her. Translated in her mind, it meant that he must not have loved her very much because she was 18 and didn't need her father's permission to marry.



The idea of submission to authority is extremely difficult in all societies. It is refreshing to see someone like Matthew make the decision he did, especially when it cost him the very thing that he loved the most, reminiscent of Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his only beloved son in the Bible. I salute Ms. Cameron for addressing the issue of respect for authority, when the world we too often see shows us example after example of less and less respect for any authority. Likewise, as Jenny works through her struggles, we rejoice with her as she is finally able to open her heart to love again.

Ms. Cameron provides a relaxing, easy-read escape from the pressures of modern day life. Thank you!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A "●" denotes a coupon and (SUN) denotes open on Sundays

Attractions

AARON & JESSICA'S BUGGY RIDES ● (SUN)...34
Plain & Fancy Farm, Rt. 340, between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. 717-768-8828. Operated by Amish. Stop at a real Amish farm. All in the country - 40 mile view. Open daily. amishbuggyrides.com

AMISH COUNTRY HOMESTEAD ● (SUN).........4, 36
Rt. 340 at Plain & Fancy Farm. 717-768-8400. Only Amish house tour designated Lancaster County "Heritage Site." Guided tours through nine rooms at quarter to the hour daily. See the new Fisher Amish schoolroom! amishexperience.com

AMISH COUNTRY TOURS ● (SUN)................4, 14
Route 340, at Plain & Fancy Farm. 717-768-8400. Enjoy 90-Minute back road guided Amish farmland tours at 10am, 12:30pm & 2:30pm (Mon.-Sat.) and 11am & 1:30pm only Sunday. amishexperience.com

AMISH EXPERIENCE F/X THEATER ● (SUN)...4, 36
Rt. 340 at Plain & Fancy Farm. 717-768-8400. Emotional, unforgettable story of the Amish, told with special effects and unique imagery. Open daily, shows on the hour. amishexperience.com

AMISH VILLAGE ● (SUN)................................40
199 Hartman Bridge Road, Ronks, PA 17572. 717-687-8511. On Rt. 896 between Rt. 30 and Strasburg, the 10-acre village includes the 1840 Amish farmhouse, one-room school, smokehouse, crafts shop, and animals. theamishvillage.net

AMISH VISIT-IN-PERSON TOUR...........................4
3121 Old Phila. Pike, Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. 717-768-8400. A unique opportunity to talk and interact with the Amish on this exclusive, officially designated Heritage Tour. Experience the Amish world on the farm, at work, and at home at three different stops. Limited to 14 people Monday thru Friday. 3-hour tour departs at 5pm. Amishexperience.com

BIBLICAL TABERNACLE....................................7
2209 Millstream Rd., Lancaster PA 17602, 717-299-0954. Full-scale reproduction of Moses' Tabernacle, seen only by guided 45 minute lecture tour. mennoniteinfoctr.com

CHERRY CREST ADVENTURE FARM.................42
150 Cherry Hill Rd., Ronks PA, 17572. 717-687-6843 or 866-546-1799. Join over a million adventurers. 50 farm-fun activities for everyone! May – October. CherryCrestAdventureFarm.com.

CHOO CHOO BARN, INC (SUN).........................43
Route 741 East, Strasburg, PA 17579, 717-687-7911. Gigantic model train layout. 150 hand-created moving details and 22 operating model trains. choochoobarn.com

DUTCH APPLE DINNER THEATRE (SUN).............6
510 Centerville Rd., Lancaster, PA 17601. 717-898-1900. Broadway-style musicals with live orchestra and a delectable buffet. Child and group rates available. dutchapple.com

EPHRATA CLOISTER ● (SUN)............................6
632 West Main Street, Ephrata, PA 17522. 717-733-6600. One of America's earliest religious communities. National Historic Landmark. Tours daily, open 7 days. ephratacloister.org

GHOST TOURS OF LANCASTER (SUN)..............40
Tours depart from Main & Decatur Streets, Strasburg, PA 17579. 717-687-6687. Discover the other side of Lancaster's history on this candlelight walking tour. Also downtown Lancaster ghost tours. For all ages. ghosttour.com

HERSHEY'S CHOCOLATE WORLD (SUN)...........57
251 Park Blvd. Hershey, PA 17033, 717-534-4900. Free Hershey's Chocolate Making Tour. Hershey's Really Big 3D Show. Free Hershey's Sample. hersheyschocolateworld.com

HIGH SPORTS (SUN).......................................16
727 Furnace Hills Pike (Rt. 501, 1 mile north of) Lititz, PA 17543. 717-626-8318. Fun for the while family! Mini-Golf, Go Kart Track, Batting Cages, Driving Range (bring your own clubs). HighSports.com

INTERCOURSE PRETZEL FACTORY...................21
3614 Old Phila. Pike (Cross Keys), Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-3432. Learn how old-fashioned pretzels are made by hand on our FREE tour and twist your own. IntercoursePretzelFactory.com

JULIUS STURGIS PRETZEL BAKERY.................16
219 E. Main Street, Lititz, PA 17543. 717-626-4354. Tour America's First Pretzel Bakery and get a hands-on pretzel twisting lesson. Mon-Sat. 9 – 5. Celebrating 150 years in 2011! juliussturgis.com

MENNONITE INFORMATION CENTER.................7
2209 Millstream Road, Lancaster, PA 17602, 717-299-0954. Showing "Who Are the Amish" Step-on Guides for Amish Country tours, open Mon-Sat 8am-5pm. mennoniteinfoctr.com

MOUNT HOPE ESTATE & WINERY ● (SUN).......49
2775 Lebanon Road (Rt. 72 north at Turnpike Exit 266), Manheim, PA 17545. 717-665-7021. Home of the PA Renaissance Faire. Complimentary wine tasting. Mon-Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5. parenfaire.com

NATIONAL CHRISTMAS CENTER FAMILY ATTRACTION AND MUSEUM (SUN)...................30
3427 Lincoln Highway (Rt. 30) Paradise, PA 17562, 717-442-7950. Tour life-sized, indoor exhibits and celebrate Christmas memories, history & traditions. NationalChristmasCenter.com

NATIONAL TOY TRAIN MUSEUM (SUN)............47
300 Paradise Lane, Strasburg, PA 17579, 717-687-8976. Toy trains from 1800's to today. Operating train layouts, movies, library, gift shop. Open 7 days May-Oct. NTTMuseum.org

PENNSYLVANIA RENAISSANCE FAIRE (SUN)...59
2775 Lebanon Road (Rt. 72 north at Turnpike Exit 266), Manheim, PA 17545. 717-665-7021. Spectacular event with shows, music, food, and jousting. Themed weekends. Runs August 13 – October 30 and Labor Day Monday. On the grounds of Mount Hope Estate and Winery. Complimentary wine tastings every day. parenfaire.com

SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE ® ●........................41
300 Hartman Bridge Road (Rt. 896, south of Rt. 30), Strasburg, PA 17579. 800-377-1277. Where the Bible comes to life. Inspiring stories. Spectacular shows. Don't miss the amazing original production, JOSEPH, in its final showings! www.sight-sound.com

STRASBURG RAIL ROAD (SUN)........................43
Route 741 East, Strasburg, PA 17579, 717-687-7522. Travel through PA Dutch country on a steam train. Eat on a dining car, visit shops, ride fun extras. StrasburgRailRoad.com

VERDANT VIEW FARM.....................................23
429 Strasburg Rd., Paradise, PA 17562. 888-321-8119. Milk cows, feed calves, and take our Farmland Fun Wagon Tour around our working dairy farm! farmlandfun.com

Let's Eat

BIRD-IN-HAND BAKE SHOP.............................12
542 Gibbons Rd., Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505, 717-656-7947. Homemade baked goods, hand-dipped ice cream locally made jar items gifts playground Visa/MC. BIHBakeShop.com

BIRD-IN-HAND FAMILY RESTAURANT & SMORGASBORD ●...5, 9
2760 Old Phila. Pike (Route 340), Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. 717-768-8266. PA Dutch specialties. Choose Grand Smorgasbord or menu dining. Unique Kid's Buffet. See ad coupon. bird-in-hand.com.

FAMILY CUPBOARD RESTAURANT & BUFFET....39
3029 Old Phila. Pike (Route 340), Bird-In-Hand, PA 17505. 717-768-4510. For delicious Lancaster County Amish home cooking, stop by The Family Cupboard buffet restaurant. Bakery and Gift shop on site.

GOOD 'N PLENTY RESTAURANT.......................33
Rt. 896, Smoketown, PA 17576. 717-394-7111. Specializing in Pennsylvania Dutch food, a long tradition of the finest in family style dining. Good food and plenty of it! goodnplenty.com

HERSHEY FARM RESTAURANT & INN ● (SUN)..44
P.O. Box 159, Strasburg, PA 17579. GPS: 240 Hartman Bridge Road (Rt. 896 S), Ronks, PA 17572. 800-827-8635. Endless menu and smorgasbord selections. Great shopping. Quaint inn and beautiful grounds. Next door to Sight & Sound. hersheyfarm.com

THE IRON HORSE INN (SUN)...........................44
135 East Main St., Strasburg, PA 17579, 717-687-6362. Serving fine food and drink on Main St. Strasburg. In season enjoy dining alfresco. ironhorsepa.com

JAKEY'S AMISH BARBEQUE (SUN).....................3
Rt. 30 (behind the Dutch Haven windmill), 2 miles east of Rockvale Outlets. 717-687-7009. Slow cooked brisket, pork, turkey and chicken BBQ sandwiches. Hand cut French fries, fresh squeezed lemonade. Open 7 days.

LANCASTER BREWING COMPANY (SUN)..........49
302 N. Plum St., Lancaster PA, 17602. 717-391-6258. Downtown Lancaster's historic working brewery! Free tours. Home of Gold Medal Winning Milk Stout... AND great food! LancasterBrewing.com.

LOXLEY'S RESTAURANT (SUN)........................49
500 Centerville Road Lancaster, PA 17601. 717-898-2431 A dining experience Lancaster County has never seen before! To call it a deck or a patio doesn't do this two level tree house justice. Loxley's immerses you in nature for a real Dining Experience. heritagelancaster.com/dining.php

MILLER'S SMORGASBORD ● (SUN).................48
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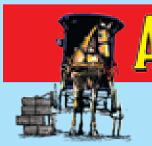

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Located at Pa Dutch Visitors Center on Greenfield Road (Off Route 30 exit). Warning: extremely addictive sticky buns! Visa/MC accepted. mrsticky.biz

PLAIN & FANCY FARM ● (SUN).......................37
Rt. 340, between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. 717-768-4400. Authentic Penn-Dutch family style and menu dining, theater, tours, gift shops, buggy rides. Open daily. PlainandFancyFarm.com

RED CABOOSE MOTEL & RESTAURANT ● (SUN) .. 43
312 Paradise Lane, Ronks PA, 17572. 717-687-5000. A refurbished 80-ton train car with railroad music playing in the background. Go back in time to the railroad's heyday! Featuring good old-fashioned family cooking. redcaboosemotel.com

REVERE TAVERN & MOTOR INN (SUN).............30
U.S. Rt. 30, Paradise, PA 17562. 717-687-8602. Built 1740. Excellent, casual Colonial dining. Steaks, seafood, child's menu. Open 7 days. Lodging on property. reveretavern.com

SUGARPLUMS & TEA (SUN) 49
403 Bank Barn Lane, Lancaster, PA 17602. 717-394-9166. What's not to love about teas and treats? Satisfy your sweet tooth and enjoy a specialty coffee or tea. Over 120 loose teas from around the world. sugarplumsandtea.com

UNION BARREL WORKS (SUN) 51
6 N. Reamstown Rd., Reamstown PA, 17567 717-335-7837. Enjoy delicious food prepared by our award-winning chef, superior ales and lagers brewed on site, and the wonderful ambience of the our carefully restored historic building. Unionbarrelworks.com

YODER'S RESTAURANT & BUFFET ● (SUN) 27
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ZOOK'S HOMEMADE CHICKEN PIES 49
3194 Harvest Drive, Ronks, PA 17572. Phone orders: 717-768-0239. A Lancaster County Amish-made favorite. Unlike any chicken pie you've ever had in 6, 8, and 9-inch sizes. "Heat 'em and eat 'em!"

Lodging

BEST WESTERN EDEN RESORT INN & SUITES....... 18
222 Eden Road, Lancaster PA, 17601. 717-569-6444. 276 impeccable guest rooms, two restaurants and lounge, indoor and outdoor pools, 24 hour business center. Edenresort.com.

BEST WESTERN INTERCOURSE VILLAGE INN & RESTAURANT ●......................20
Rts. 340 & 772, Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-3636 or 1-800-528-1234. Walk thru the Village & Visit the Craft Shops. 40 Rooms, restaurant with Good Home Cooking. amishcountryinns.com

COUNTRY INN OF LANCASTER ●....................54
2133 Lincoln Hwy. East (Rt. 30), Lancaster, PA 17602. 717-393-3413. Three-Diamond Country Inn with charm. Free Continental breakfast. Heated indoor / outdoor pool. Children stay free. countryinnoflancaster.com

FLORY'S COTTAGES & CAMPING 54
99 N. Ronks Rd. (PO Box 308), Ronks, PA 17572, 717- 687-6670. Family atmosphere, great views, quiet central location w/modern spotless camping and lodging. floryscamping.com

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LAKE IN WOOD RESORT 64
576 Yellow Hill Road, Narvon, PA 17555. 717-445-5525. Featuring 6-acre lake, gazebo, community fireplace, rental cabins and park models. LakeinWoodCampground.com

Deadline: **December 31st, 2011**

Calling All Photographers!

2011 Amish Country News
Photo Contest

Ours is one of the most photographed areas in the world. With so much beauty and variety around us, it's no wonder! If you think you've got a great photo, why not send it to us? The winner will recieve free tour and attraction tickets. In addition, you will see your photo in the pages of *Amish Country News!* Other prizes will also go to the first, second, and third runners-up.

All submitted photos become the property of *Amish Country News* and the Amish Experience. Photos may also be used in upcoming issues, in other publications, and/or for other promotional purposes.

Photos will be judged on quality, color, subject matter, etc. Keep in mind that these photos are for publication, cannot be returned, and should depict a scene, aspect, event, or activity typical to Lancaster or the Pennsylvania Dutch Country region.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: December 31st, 2011

We will accept photos via email, and request that no more than 10 photos by the same person be submitted, so pick your best! Each photo submitted should contain the name, address, phone # and email address of the photographer, so they can be contacted. Any details on the location, date, or subject matter of the photograph should be included.

To enter, send photos in .jpg or .tiff format to: editor@amishnews.com
(Please put "2011 photo contest" in the subject line)

Shopping

AIMEE & DARIA'S DOLL OUTLET (SUN) 6
2682 Lincoln Hwy. East, Ronks, PA 17572. 717-687-8118. Over 5000 dolls, doll clothing, doll furniture. American Girl mini-doll, books, clothes to fit. dolloutlet.com

AMISH COUNTRY DÉCOR & MORE.COM 8
www.amishcountrydecorandmore.com We focus on bringing you the very best of American made crafts. We are headquartered in Amish Country, Lancaster County. Many of our products are made by Amish and Mennonite craftsmen. Browse our selection today!

ANTIQUES CAPITAL USA (SUN).......................50
Exit 286 off pa turnpike, Adamstown pa. Home to more than 7,000 antique dealers. Microbrewery, golf courses, farmers markets, and more. Antiquescapital.com

BARBAGALLO'S RESCUED: A TRUE STORY OF ENDURING LOVE 14
Compelling love story. New York City girl's turmoil leads to drug overdose, elopement, and move to Vermont. How could she land in jail three weeks later? See ad on page 19 of this issue. Visit YolandaTom.com

BASKET ACCESSORIES....................................25
3614 Old Phila. Pike, Intercourse PA 17534. Twenty years of quality hand-painted lids and accessories for Longaberger® baskets. Protectors, liners, shelves, retired baskets, plastic basket sleeves, plus locally-made Amish baskets and wrought iron.

BIRD-IN-HAND FARMERS MARKET 33
2710 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. 717 393-9674. Indoor air-conditioned farmers market. Call or visit birdinhandfarmersmarket.com for days of operation or see our ad.

BRICKERVILLE ANTIQUES (SUN).....................17
2 East 28th Division Hwy., Lititz, PA 17543. 717-626-0786. At Brickerville Shops, Rt. 322 & 501. Quality antiques & collectibles in a restored 1857 barn. Open 7 days. brickervillehouseshops.com

CALKINS' VINE AND THE BRANCHES 16
51 N. Broad St. Lititz, PA. 717-627-2221 An unusual mix of furniture and decorations that brings the past to life. We also carry a fine selection of Moravian Stars. www.vineandthebranches.com.

COUNTRY CREATIONS 42
321 North Star Rd., Strasburg, PA 17579. 717-687-8743. Three floors of home accessories, furniture lighting, gifts, rugs, curtains, candles, jewelry in our 110-year-old barn! CountryCreationsPA.com

COUNTRY HOME FURNITURE ● 28
On Route 23 at the Shady Maple Complex. 717 354-2329. Fine home furnishings and the area's largest selection of Amish furniture. We deliver and ship anywhere. Open Mon.-Sat. chfs1.com

COUNTRY KNIVES ● 20
4134 Old Phila. Pike (PO Box 576), Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-3818. One of the largest collections of fine cutlery in the world! Over 8,000 items from 300 manufacturers and 20 countries. countryknives.com

COUNTRY ROAD FLOWERS...............................21
3546 W. Newport Rd., Ronks, 17572. 717-768-8478. Wonderful silk & dried flower arrangements, as well as Boyds Bears, Yankee candles, and crafts. Search for us at amishnews.com

COUNTRY THYME PRIMITIVES........................39
393 Newport Road. Ronks, PA. 717-656-2123
Hand-made solid-wood primitive furniture reflecting aged character with master finishing. Our furniture showcases a rich, weathered feel.

DON & ANN'S ANTIQUE ROE AND VILLAGE ANTIQUE MARKET ●(SUN) 45
2705 Old Phila. Pike, Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. 484-645-6256, 717-606-7193. Come visit this unique vendor and over 40 dealers across from the farmers market for the "ultimate antique experience" right in Bird-on-Hand.

DUTCH HAVEN (SUN)..3
Route 30, 2 miles east of Rockvale Outlets. 717-687-0111. Select, distinctive crafts and "America's best shoo-fly pie." Open 7 days. Look for famous landmark windmill! Also, Jakey's Amish Barbeque. dutchhaven.com

DUTCHLAND QUILT PATCH 24
In the heart of Intercourse (Rt. 340). 717-768-8799 & Village of Dutch Delights (Rt. 30), 717-687-0534. Locally made quilts, wall hangings, pillows, dolls, & other hand-crafted items. Open Mon-Sat. dutchlandquilts.com

ESH'S HANDMADE QUILTS 20
3829 Old Phila. Pike, Gordonville, PA 17529. (1 mi. east of Intercourse, Rt. 340). 717-768-8435. Quilts and crafts --- "The Authentic Ones." Custom quilting and memory quilts. (Mon-Sat 9-6). Visa/MC/Discover.

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849 Strasburg Road, Paradise, PA 17562. 717-442-8123. Come up the lane and turn left into an authentic Amish quilt shop on the farm in a beautiful location. Quality handmade quilts, wallhangings, runners, pillows and crafts at reasonable prices.

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INTERCOURSE CANNING COMPANY ● (SUN)..........21
3612 E. Newport Rd., PO Box 541, Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-0156. View one of Lancaster's working canneries! Jake & Amos pickled vegetables, relishes, jams, & more. Gourmet coffees. M-Thurs. 9:30-5; Fri.-Sat. 9:30-6. intercoursecanning.com

J & B QUILTS & CRAFTS..................................43
157 North Star Rd., Strasburg. Visit an Amish farm while shopping for beautiful quilted items including quilts, wall hangings, aprons, handbags, pillows, and more.

JAKE'S COUNTRY TRADING POST ● (SUN).....31
2954 Lincoln Hwy. East (Rt. 30), Paradise, PA. 717-687-8980. America's favorite country store. Largest selection of indoor and outdoor décor. Open 7 days a week. jakesctp.com

KAUFFMAN'S FRUIT FARM & MARKET ●..........50
3097 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird In Hand, PA 17505 (717) 768-7112 Our very own orchard fruits. See our hive of bees, and buy a jar of the delicious honey! Huge selection of bulk foods, and many other local grocery specialties. kauffmansfruitfarm.com

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3000 Lincoln Highway East, Paradise PA, 17562. 717-687-7666. Located 4 miles east of the outlets on route 30. Extreme fashion for ladies, gentlemen, cowboys, bikers, and scoundrels. killerhats.com

LAPP'S QUILTS & CRAFTS...............................47
206 N. Star Rd., off Rt. 896, Strasburg. Shop in the basement of an Amish home for beautiful quilts & wood crafts. Open 8-7, closed Sunday.

LEACOCK COLEMAN CENTER ●........................24
89 Old Leacock Road, Ronks PA, 17572. 717-768-7174. Campfire Supplies! Pie Irons, Hot Dog Forks, Marshmallow Roasters, Tripods, Campfire Grills, Fire starters, and more! More than just for vacations, like enjoying a quiet evening at home in the back yard or your patio! See the area's largest selection of old-fashioned oil lamps. leacockcolemancenter.com.

MOUNT HOPE WINE GALLERY ● (SUN)...........26
3174 Old Phila. Pike (Rt. 340), Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. 717-768-7194. Formal wine tastings and sales. Customized gift baskets available. Mon.-Sat. 10-6; Sun. 11-6. parenfaire.com

OBIE'S COUNTRY STORE.................................28
1585 Main Street, Goodville, PA. 717-445-4616 Largest variety of quilts and hand-made crafts in Lancaster County. Two floors of high-quality bolts of fabric. Toys & Penny Candy too!

OLD CANDLE BARN..24
Box 10, 3551 Old Philadelphia Pike, Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-8926. Stop in the barn that is just filled to the rafters with country furnishings that will turn your house into a home. oldcandlebarn.com

OLD COUNTRY STORE ●..................................22
3510 Old phila. Pk., Route 340, Intercourse PA. 717-768-7101. Landmark store featuring local crafts and quilts. Extensive Fabric Center & Quilt Museum. theoldcountrystore.com

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RENNINGER'S ANTIQUE MARKET (SUN)..........50
2500 N. Reading Rd., Denver, PA 17517. (717) 336-2177. Renninger's is the #1 Antiques Market in Adamstown. Selling and buying quality antiques. Open Sundays at 7:30 AM. We have an indoor and outdoor marketplace, with plenty of parking.

RIEHL'S QUILTS & CRAFTS ●..........................35
247 Eby Rd. Take Rt. 340 to 772 W, turn right onto Stumptown and right onto Eby. 717-656-0697, 800-957-7105. Come visit this Amish dairy farm & see our large display of quilts & crafts. Open 8-5:30. Call for catalog. riehlsamishquilts.com

SAM'S STEINS & COLLECTIBLES, INC. 9
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SHUPP'S GROVE ANTIQUE MARKET (SUN).......51
PO Box 892, Adamstown, PA 19501. 717-484-4115. From Lancaster: Rt. 222 N to Rt. 272 N, south 1 mi. on Rt. 897. Romance of the woods, thrill of the hunt, euphoria of the "Big Find!" shuppsgrove.com

SMUCKERS GOURDS 26
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SMUCKER'S QUILTS...27
117 N. Groffdale Rd., New Holland, PA 17557. 717-656-8730. Shop located on the peaceful side of Lancaster on an Amish farm, over 100 quilts and other handcrafts. Search for us at amishnews.com

THAT FISH PLACE/THAT PET PLACE ● (SUN)....7
237 Centerville Road, Lancaster, PA 17603, 717-299-5691. The world's largest pet store! 1,000's of fish, pets, & supplies. Free sting ray touch tank. Mon-Sat 9-9, Sun 10-6. thatpetplace.com

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1070 West Main St., New Holland, PA 17557. 717-656-9526. Over 100 new quilts, over 100 antique quilts in stock! All different. Also, wall-hangers and pillows. Open Mon-Sat. Search for us at amishnews.com

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ZOOK'S FABRICS 24
3535 Old Philadelphia Pike (PO Box 514), Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-8153. Huge selection of fabric here on Main Street in Intercourse and at Sauder's Fabrics for quilting, dress-making, sewing, supplies. www.zandsfabrics.com

(STRASBURG Continued from Page 43)

reached the end of the line. To the rescue came a group of local train enthusiasts who began bringing the Rail Road back to life in a totally new way. Having discovered they could actually make money transporting people rather than losing it hauling freight, they added passenger cars and buildings, and today's Strasburg Rail Road was born, destined to become one of Dutch Country's top attractions.

Appropriately enough, the State decided to build an expanded Rail Road Museum of Pennsylvania across the street, the ideal place to preserve the history of railroading in Pennsylvania. With the other train attractions nearby, it's little wonder that Strasburg has earned the title of Train Town, USA!

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PUBLISHER'S MESSAGE

Special Children – Special Auction

by Brad Igou

Auctions have long been important fund raisers for many charities and non-profits in Amish Country. These include the famous fire company "mud sales," and those for religious or community support groups, including the wonderful Hospice of Lancaster County Labor Day Auction. Such events feature many of the foods and crafts for which our area is famous.

Since Plain people are involved in many auctions, these are opportunities to rub elbows without feeling like you are gawking. In fact, many auctions are planned for when visitors are in the area, since they are often some of the main bidders, especially when quilts are on the block. And there's the food!

My personal favorite is the Clinic for Special Children Auction, held on the third Saturday in September (the 17th this year), at the Leola Produce Auction on Brethren Church Road, a mile north of Route 23 in Leola.

What is the Clinic for Special Children? According to their newsletter, it is "a non-profit medical service for Amish and Mennonite children with genetic disorders. The clinic serves children by translating advances in genetics into timely diagnoses and accessible, comprehensive medical care, and by developing better understanding of heritable diseases."

Dr. Holmes Morton founded the Clinic in 1989. Over the first twenty years, the case load grew from 100 to 1,000 patients, with the number of genetic disorders treated from 12 to 109. The diagnosis of many rare disorders has saved the lives of thousands of children, often with the help of medical centers and researchers around the world. While the research benefits children everywhere, the Clinic's local services are some of the best available, with care plans designed especially for the individual patient.

The Clinic resembles a barn from the outside, comforting to the mostly agrarian clientele.

Here is just one example of the Clinic's work over the years. When a disorder suddenly took the lives of two young brothers, there was concern about how to get blood samples and diagnose others in their extended family who might be at risk. The family had a wedding coming up. Three staff members from the Clinic "drew blood samples for three hours on a Saturday night at the wedding reception. Out of the 63 people tested, we found 12 males who were at risk for the overwhelming infection, and 14 female carriers." As with many of these rare genetic disorders, newborn screening may detect those most at risk and very often save lives.

Currently, there are auctions in Pennsylvania and Ohio every year. The idea for the auction came from a group of volunteers in 1991. At the 2010 Lancaster auction, there were 1,542 bidders along with nineteen volunteer auctioneers, and eleven clerks. Almost 4,000 donated items, among them 79 quilts, were sold at seven simultaneous auction blocks. Here is a sampling of some of last year's food numbers: 15,000 donuts, 2,300 subs, 4,000 soft pretzels, 110 gallons of lemonade, 288 waffles and ice cream, 3,000 pounds of barbecued chicken, 3,700 pounds of potatoes for French fries and chips, 720 pizzas, pork sandwiches from eight roasted pigs, 500 gallons of ice cream, 500 smoothies, 700 omelets, 600 pancakes, and 4,000 whoopie pies in eight variations.

And so, on an isolated farm south of Strasburg, doctors in a state-of-the-art genetic research facility and a group of people known for shunning much of the world's modern technology collaborate in an inspiring effort that helps their children and many others. Try to be around for this auction. If there is one unforgettably inspiring, totally unique Amish Country experience, this is it.

INFO: The Clinic for Special Children, P.O. Box 128, Strasburg, PA 17579. Tel. 717-687-9407. ClinicForSpecialChildren.org.

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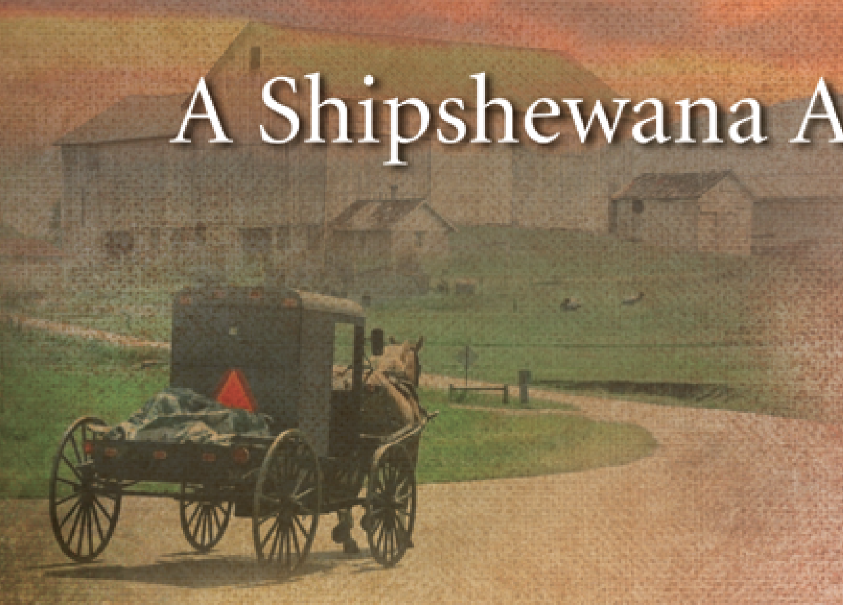
A Shipshewana Amish Mystery



Callie Harper's past haunts her. Deborah Yoder is an Amish woman who loves to quilt and piece things together—even mysteries. When a murder takes place in the small town of Shipshewana, an unlikely friendship blossoms between the two women. Will they solve the murder, and will Callie let go of the past so she can embrace the future God offers her?

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AMISH COUNTRY HOLIDAY BOOK TOUR 2011

November 12, 2011
Shipshewana, IN
Riegsecker's Blue Gate
Restaurant and Theater

November 15, 2011
Sugarcreek, OH
Tuscarawas County Public Library

November 18, 2011
Lancaster, PA
Plain & Fancy Farm
Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Stage

Join us for an Amish Christmas celebration with authors...

Vannetta Chapman

Shelley Shepard Gray

Amy Clipston

For more information about the book tour, visit www.Zondervan.com/AmishCountryTour

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